

Modesty BLAISE

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

GUIDO THE JINX



IN MODESTY'S KITCHEN

IN THE SECOND CENTURY B.C. A CARAVAN ROUTE 4000 MILES LONG WAS ESTABLISHED BETWEEN CHINA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN—

STOP!

WENG, I SIMPLY ASKED TO SPEAK TO MISS BLAISE—WHY ARE YOU GIVING ME A LECTURE ON THE HISTORIC SILK ROAD?

THERE IS A RELEVANT CONNECTION, SIR GERALD

8385

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

AT PRESENT MISS BLAISE AND MR. GARVIN ARE SOMEWHERE BETWEEN SAMARKAND AND THE CASPIAN SEA



YOU MEAN THEY'RE ACTUALLY TRAVELLING THE OLD MARCO POLO TRAIL?

ONLY A THOUSAND-MILE SECTION OF IT, SIR GERALD—A SIX-WEEK HOLIDAY ON THE FAMOUS SILK ROAD—I EXPECT YOU WONDER WHY

NO, IT'S PERFECTLY OBVIOUS, WENG



THEY'RE DOING IT FOR FUN—JUST GIVE THEM MY REGARDS IF YOU HEAR FROM THEM



IN THE MOUNTAINS WEST OF SAMARKAND, NIGHT HAS FALLEN

8386

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



I RECKON WE DID THIRTY MILES TODAY

IT'S SLOWER GOING TOMORROW—AFTER THE RIVER THERE'S A LONG HARD CLIMB



NOT THAT IT MATTERS, WE'VE NO SCHEDULE TO KEEP—ARE YOU READY FOR LIGHTS OUT?

OH, SURE—GOODNIGHT, PRINCESS, SLEEP WELL



I WILL—I'M REALLY ENJOYING THIS TRIP, IT'S SO PEACEFUL—GO OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD

GOODNIGHT, WILLIE LOVE

8387

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

MORNING

BREAKFAST
IN FIVE
MINUTES

RIGHT... I'LL
LOAD THE
MULES
AFTER WE'VE
EATEN

THINK I'LL JUST
WALK UP TO THE RIDGE
AND HAVE A LOOK
ROUND

YES, DO THAT,
WILLIE—MAYBE YOU
CAN PICK OUT OUR
BEST ROUTE

ON THE
CREST...

EASIER
IF WE STAY
SOUTH OF
THE RIDGE
TILL WE GET
DOWN TO THE
VALLEY,
THEN—

BLIMEY!
WHAT'S
THAT?

8388

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

A SHARP WHISTLE MAKES
MODESTY LOOK UP

CIRCULAR WAVE—THAT'S OUR URGENT SIGN...
WHAT ON EARTH HAS HE SPOTTED HERE,
IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE?

... LIKE MAYBE YOU'VE
JUST GONE BARMY!

TAKE IT EASY, WILLIE-BOY—
THERE MUST BE A PERFECTLY
RATIONAL EXPLANATION ...

8389

STONE-AGE MEN CARRY THE CARCASS
OF A SABRE-TOOTHED TIGER

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!
A BUNCH OF CAVEMEN,
WITH CLUBS
AND FLINT
AXES...

SO THIS IS BEFORE THE BOW AND
ARROW WAS INVENTED—WHAT
AM I TALKING ABOUT?
WE'RE IN THE
NUCLEAR AGE!

QUICK, PRINCESS
TELL ME IF YOU
CAN SEE 'EM
TOO!

YOU'D BETTER
NOT BE KIDDING,
WILLIE GARVIN—
THE BREAKFAST'S
SPOILING!

8389A

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

WHAT IS
IT?

CAVEMEN!
STRAIGHT OUT
OF THE
STONE AGE
AND HUMPING
A DEAD
SABRE-TOOTH
ON A POLE!

WILLIE
I JUST
SEE THE
VALLEY—
NO
CAVEMEN,
NO
TIGER

I CAN'T
SEE THEM
NOW! BUT
THEY WERE
THERE,
PRINCESS!

8390

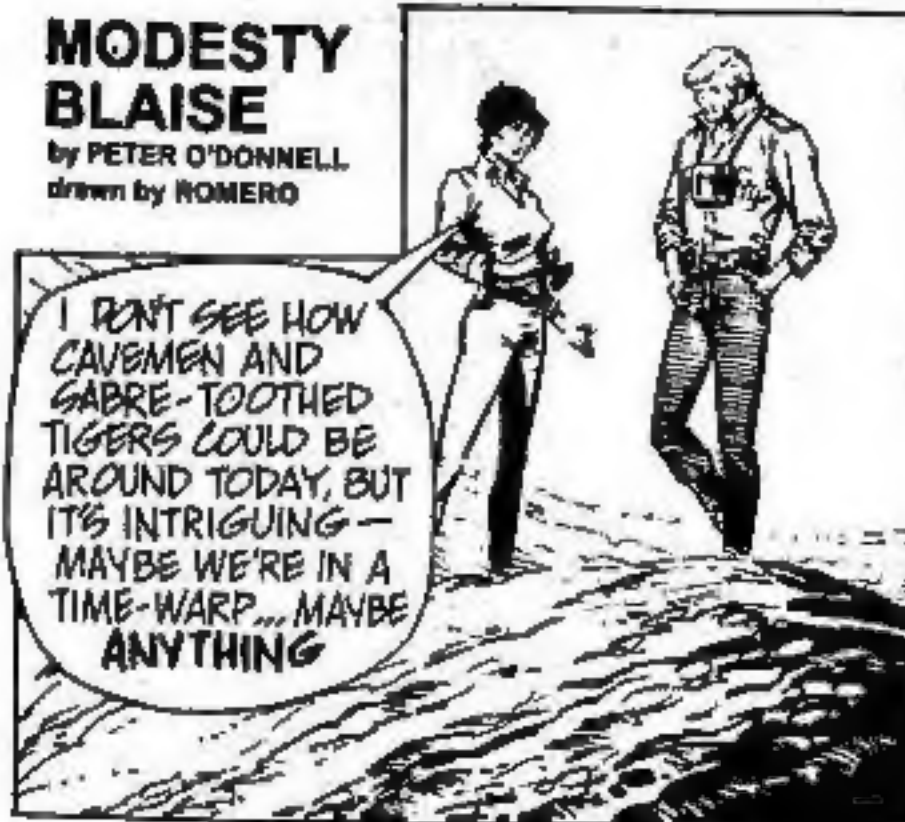
WELL, YOU'RE NOT
DREAMING, YOU'RE NOT
FEVERISH, AND YOU HAVEN'T
EATEN ANY HALLUCINOGENIC
SUBSTANCE... MAYBE
THEY DISAPPEARED INTO A
GULCH OFF THE VALLEY

BUT...
CAVEMEN?

MODESTY BLAISE

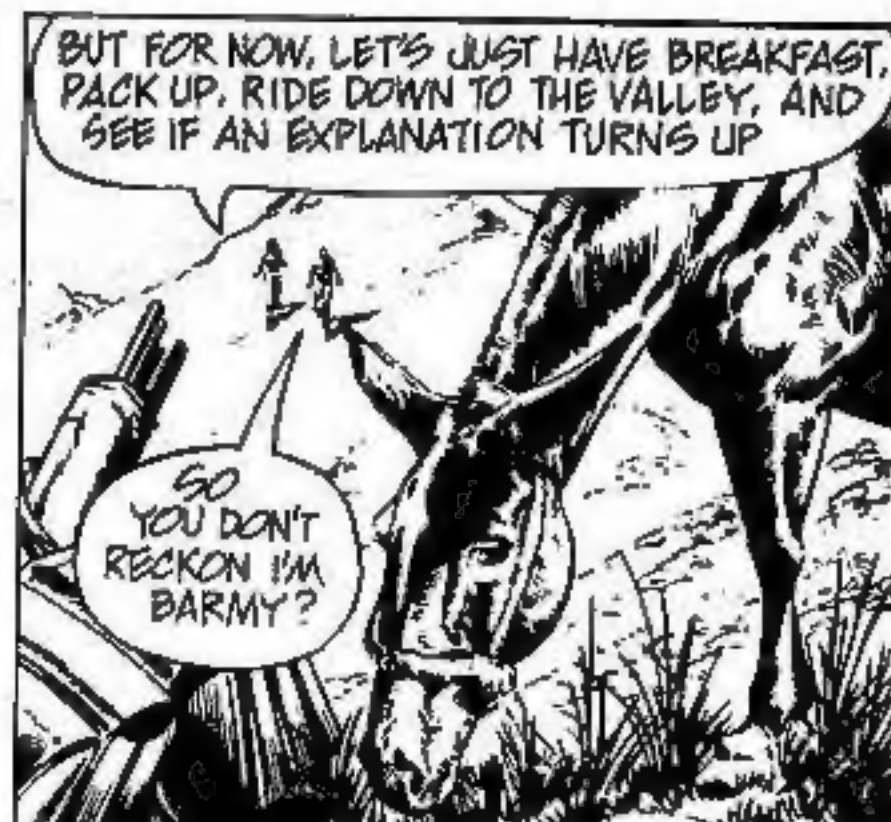
by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

I DON'T SEE HOW CAVEMEN AND SABRE-TOOTHED TIGERS COULD BE AROUND TODAY, BUT IT'S INTRIGUING — MAYBE WE'RE IN A TIME-WARP... MAYBE ANYTHING



BUT FOR NOW, LET'S JUST HAVE BREAKFAST, PACK UP, RIDE DOWN TO THE VALLEY, AND SEE IF AN EXPLANATION TURNS UP

SO YOU DON'T RECKON I'M BARMY?



DEFINITELY NOT, WILLIE — BARMY PEOPLE KNOW THEY'RE SANE



8391

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

LET'S NOT SPECULATE ABOUT TODAY'S CAVEMEN — WE'RE ON THE OLD SILK ROAD THAT MARCO POLO TROD, SO TELL ME ABOUT SILK, I'M SURE YOU'VE READ IT UP



WELL, THE CATERPILLAR THAT'S CALLED A SILKWORM LIVES ABOUT FOUR WEEKS, EATS MULBERRY LEAVES, AND MULTIPLIES ITS WEIGHT BY TEN THOUSAND

A LITTLE PIGGY!



RIGHT! THEN IT STARTS COCOONING — SQUIRTING OUT A MILE OF SILK FIBRE AT A FOOT A MINUTE

A BUSY LITTLE PIGGY!



8392

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

THE SILKWORM'S FILAMENT IS STRONGER THAN STEEL OF THE SAME DIMENSION — AND D'YOU KNOW WHAT GIVES SILK THAT LOVELY SHEEN?

TELL ME, WILLIE



WELL, THE FIBRE THE SILKWORM SQUIRTS OUT IS TRIANGULAR, SO IT REFLECTS LIKE A PRISM! ISN'T THAT MARVELLOUS? I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ELSE IN NATURE THAT'S TRIANGULAR



BUT I DO KNOW I SAW STONE AGE PEOPLE THIS MORNING AND NOW I'M HEARING A MOTORBIKE — THIS IS CRAZY!

NO... I HEAR IT TOO



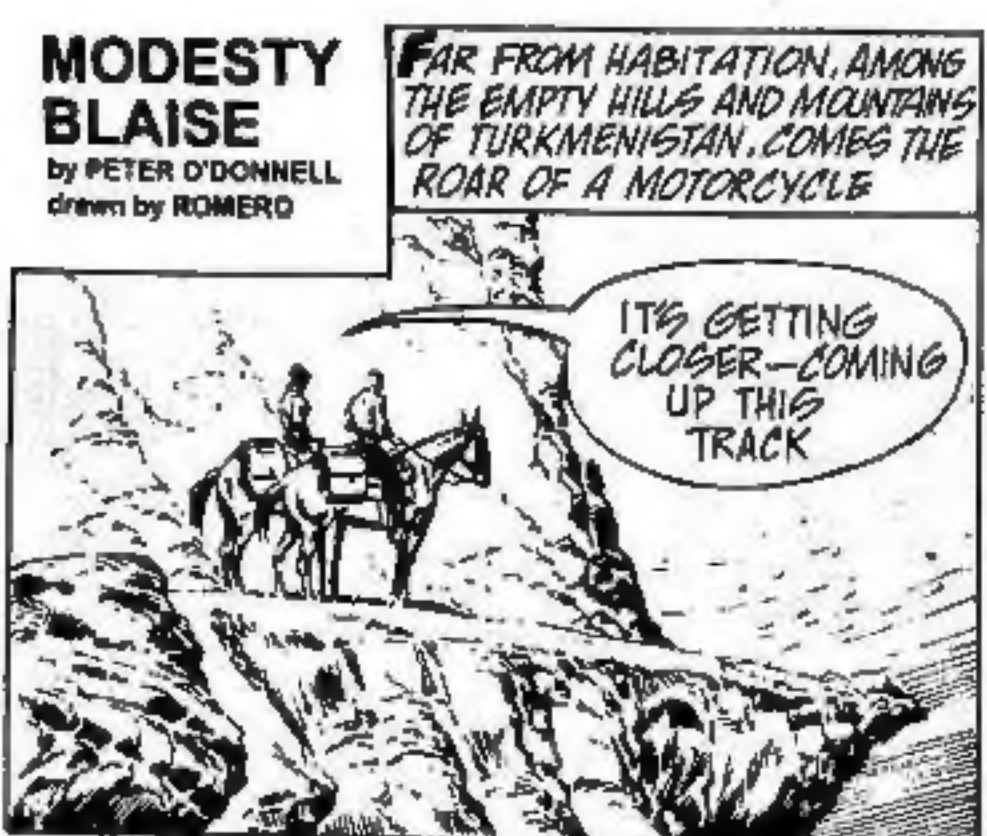
8393

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

FAR FROM HABITATION, AMONG THE EMPTY HILLS AND MOUNTAINS OF TURKMENISTAN, COMES THE ROAR OF A MOTORCYCLE

IT'S GETTING CLOSER — COMING UP THIS TRACK



WILLIE CLOSES HIS EYES

IF IT'S RIDDEN BY A SABRE-TOOTHED TIGER... I'LL GO QUIETLY, PRINCESS

OH, MY GOD, IT'S CRAZIER THAN THAT!



IT'S THAT MAD ITALIAN JOURNALIST GUIDO! WITH ANIELA, HIS GIRLFRIEND!

MODESTY! IT IS I! YOUR DEARLY LOVED FRIEND GUIDO!



8394

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

THE BELLOW OF THE ENGINE ALARMS THE MULES



SWITCH THAT MACHINE OFF OR I'LL KILL YOU, GUIDO!



ISN'T SHE WONDERFUL, CARA MIA? ALWAYS READY WITH A JOKE

IF WEELEE FALLS OFF AND HURTS HIMSELF, I WILL KEEL YOU!



MODESTY GETS CONTROL

EASY NOW, RAMBO - THIS IS JUST A BAD DREAM AND WE'LL WAKE UP ANY MINUTE NOW - I HOPE

8394 A

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



HALLO, MODESTY

WEELEE! HOW GOOD TO SEE YOU! I WOULD SHAKE HANDS BUT THEY ARE SWEATY, SO I'D BETTER KISS YOU HALLO!



AHHH... SHE FEELS WILLIE IS LIKE A BROTHER TO HER

WELL... IF YOU SAY SO!



MODESTY WE ARE RE-UNITED! I EMBRACE MY OLD COMRADE!

OH, NO! EVERY TIME YOU APPEAR, THIS OLD COMRADE ENDS UP DICING WITH DEATH!

8395

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

GUIDO BIGANZOLI... ITALIAN JOURNALIST, CHRONIC LIAR, SHAMELESS BRAGGART, LIFELONG LECHER, AND ALWAYS IN TROUBLE



WHAT A LUCKY COINCIDENCE THAT WE SHOULD MEET, CARISSIMA!



THIS ISN'T A BAD DREAM. IT'S BAD REALITY - HOW COME WE MEET IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE, THOUSANDS OF MILES FROM HOME?

SIMPLE, MY ANGEL!



AN HOUR AGO I SAW A FIGURE ON THE SKYLINE! FROM AFAR, I PEEPED THROUGH BINOCULARS! COULD IT BE? YES! IT WAS WILLIE GARVIN!

BLAMEY - HOLD THE FRONT PAGE

8396

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THESE REMOTE PARTS, GUIDO? YOU'RE NOT LIKELY TO GET AN EXCLUSIVE SCOOP FOR YOUR NEWSPAPER!



GUIDO'S EDITOR SENT HIM HERE ON LOCATION WITH THE FILM UNIT, MODESTY

THE FILM UNIT?

IS IT A MOVIE SET IN THE STONE AGE?



EXACTLY! AND MODESTY, YOU WILL LOOK SO WONDERFUL DRESSED IN ANIMAL SKINS, MY TREASURE

WHAT?

8397

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



WE HAVE A DISASTER, MODESTY! THE STUNT GIRL AND STUNT MAN ARE HURT, AND IT WILL TAKE WEEKS TO GET A NEW PAIR UNDER CONTRACT AND ON LOCATION!



THE DIRECTOR IS IN DESPAIR! HE WEEPS! SO WHEN I REALISED YOU AND WILLIE WERE HERE, I TOLD HIM—

YOU TOLD HIM WE'D DO THE JOB!



I'M GOING TO KILL YOU, GUIDO—VERY SLOWLY, IT MAY TAKE DAYS

HA-HA! I KNEW YOU WOULD MAKE FUN OF ME BEFORE YOU AGREED

8398

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



I AM NOT AMUSED, GUIDO! I'M TELLING YOU WE WON'T DO STUNTS FOR YOUR FILM! YOU HAVE A GIFT FOR GETTING ME IN TROUBLE!



ONLY ONE LITTLE STUNT REMAINS TO BE DONE, MY TREASURE

THEN YOU DO IT, AND GIVE YOUR READERS A GREAT STORY—MY JINX!



WELL... I HAVE TRIED AND FAILED... ALL IS OVER, ANIELA... I WILL END IN THE GUTTER... WE CAN NEVER MARRY

JUST LISTEN TO THAT TEAR-JERKING CONMAN, WILLIE!

8399

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



I RELEASE YOU FROM YOUR PROMISE TO MARRY ME, ANIELA—I WILL NOT HAVE YOU BETROTHED TO A RUINED MAN!



I REFUSE TO BE RELEASED! YOU HAVE BEEN GOING TO MARRY ME FOR FIVE YEARS NOW, YOU LYING PEEG!

WAIT HERE WHILE I SPEAK TO MODESTY



ANIELA WAS GREAT WHEN WE WERE UP AGAINST THOSE KILLERS MAKING SNUFF-FILMS, PRINCESS

I KNOW... I'VE BEEN TRYING TO KID MYSELF IT DOESN'T COUNT, BUT IT DOES

8399A

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



GUIDO'S BOSS, THE NEWSPAPER TYCOON, HAS FINANCED THIS FILM THE DAY OF THE DINOSAUR— HE WILL LOSE A FORTUNE IF IT IS LATE



HE SENT GUIDO HERE AS WHAT YOU CALL TROUBLE-SHOOTER, YES? BUT IF GUIDO DOES NOT SHOOT THE TROUBLE HE WILL BE FIRED!



THEN HE WILL HAVE ANOTHER EXCUSE NOT TO MARRY ME, AND I WILL DIE AN OLD MAID!

AN OLD MAID...?

8400

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

ALL RIGHT, ANIELA, WE'LL DO THE FILM STUNT FOR YOU — BUT KEEP GUIDO FROM GETTING UNDER OUR FEET!

OF COURSE — AND THANK YOU, MODESTY

YOU ARE SUCH A GOOD FRIEND — I WILL PRAY TO ST. CAMILLUS, PATRON SAINT OF HOSPITALS, TO ASK THAT YOU WON'T BE NEEDING HIM

OH, I MUST THANK WEELIE, TOO

YOUR FLANÇÉE HAS GOOD NEWS FOR YOU, GUIDO — ONCE HER MOUTH IS FREE

YOU HAVE AGREED? AH, THAT IS MAGNIFICENT!

B401

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

"WITH GREAT SKILL I NEGOTIATED FOR THE SERVICES OF TWO EXPERIENCED STUNT-PERSONS, CHARMING THEM WITH MY SUAVE YET COMMANDING MANNER—"

STOP WRITING REPORTS IN YOUR HEAD, GUIDO — WHERE IS THIS FILM UNIT?

EH? REPORTS? OH NO, I WAS SIMPLY THINKING THAT I WOULD LEAVE ANIELA TO GUIDE YOU

I WILL GO ON AHEAD, TO TELL THE DIRECTOR THAT I, GUIDO BIGANZOLI, HAVE SAVED THE DAY FOR HIM!

DON'T UNDERSELL YOURSELF, GUIDO

B402

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

YOU ARE SURE MODESTY WON'T MIND THAT I RIDE YOUR MULE, WEELIE?

QUITE SURE — SHE'S VERY UNDERSTANDING

OH, GOOD — I LIKE TO DO THINGS WITH YOU THAT WILL MAKE GUIDO JEALOUS — BUT I WISH HE WOULD NOTICE

PRAPS YOU'D BETTER TRY 'ARDER, ANIELA — LUCKILY I JUST LIVE FOR OTHERS, SO I'LL PUT UP WITH BEING MADE USE OF

B403

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

THE FILM UNIT

THE LUNATIC'S BACK, BOSS

MARIO TERINGO, THE DIRECTOR

I'VE GOT THEM, MARIO — THE BEST STUNT PAIR YOU EVER SAW! COMBAT, HIGH FALLS, MOTOR-SMASH, HORSE-TRAMPLING —

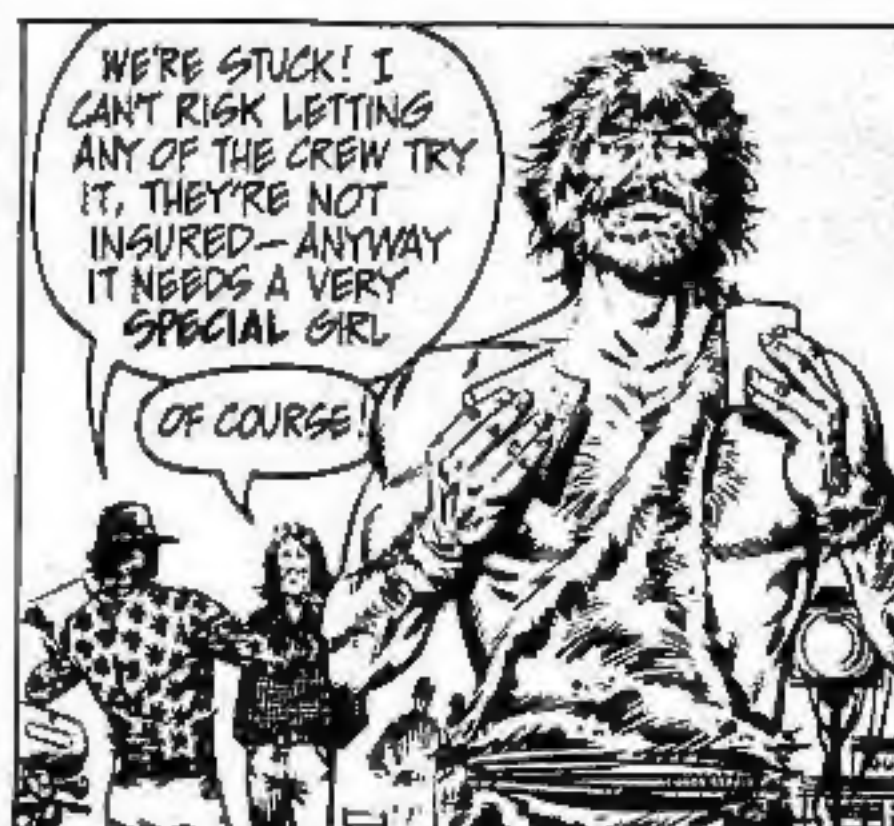
GUIDO — I DON'T WANT ANYONE TRAMPLED BY HORSES!

B404

Modesty BLAISE

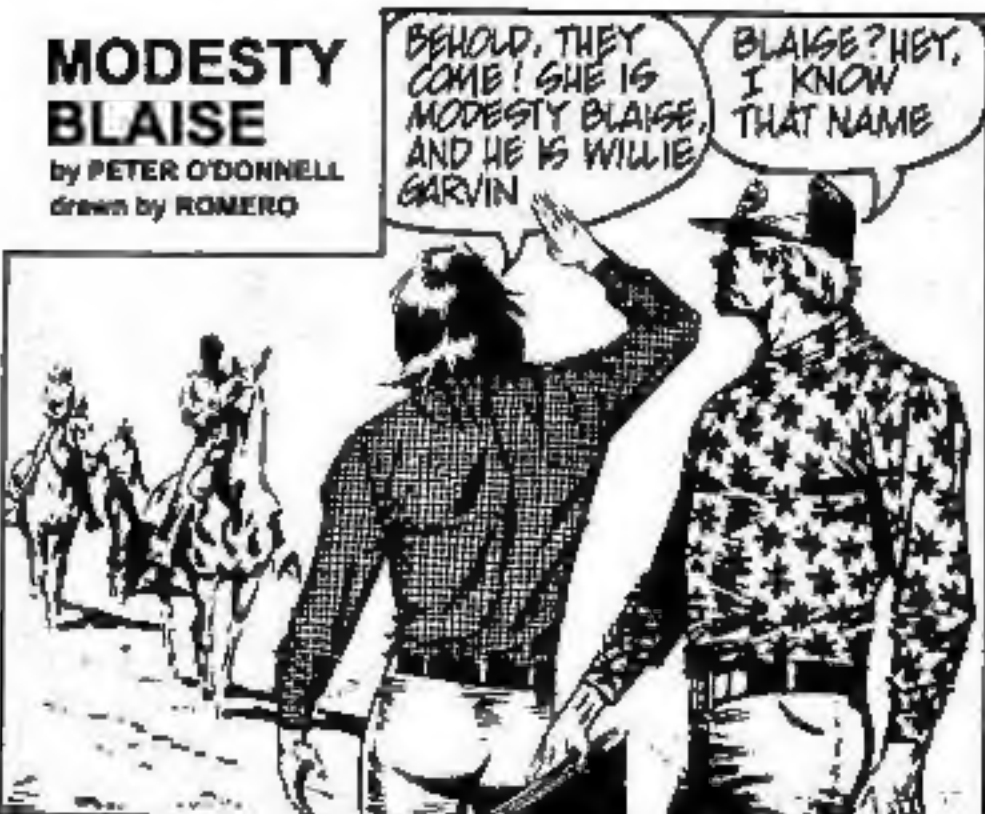
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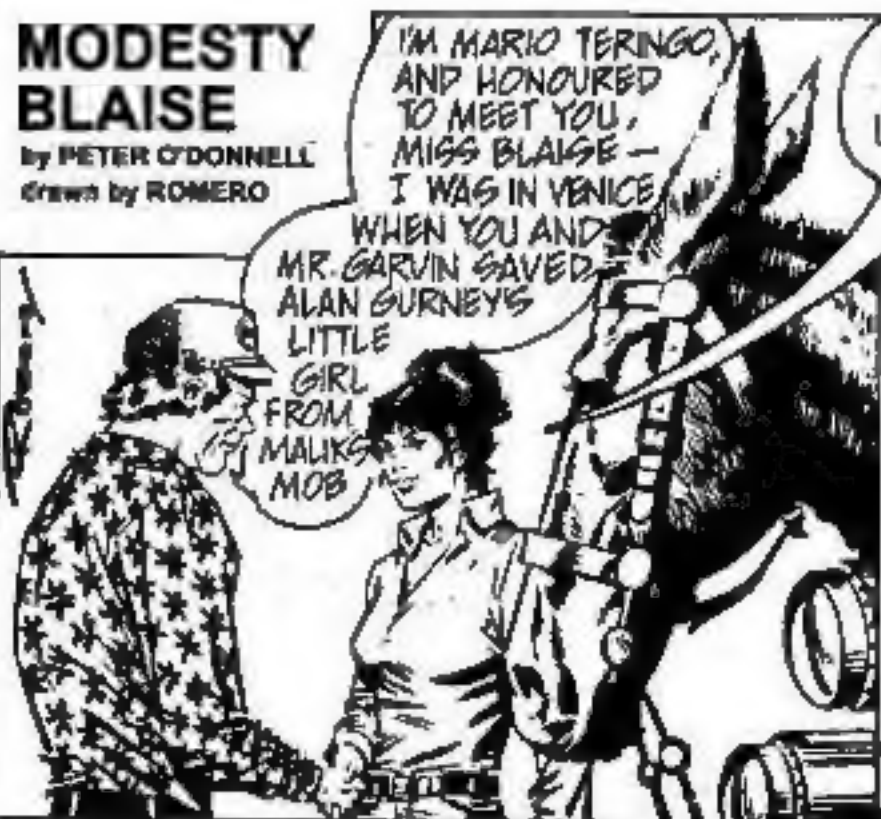
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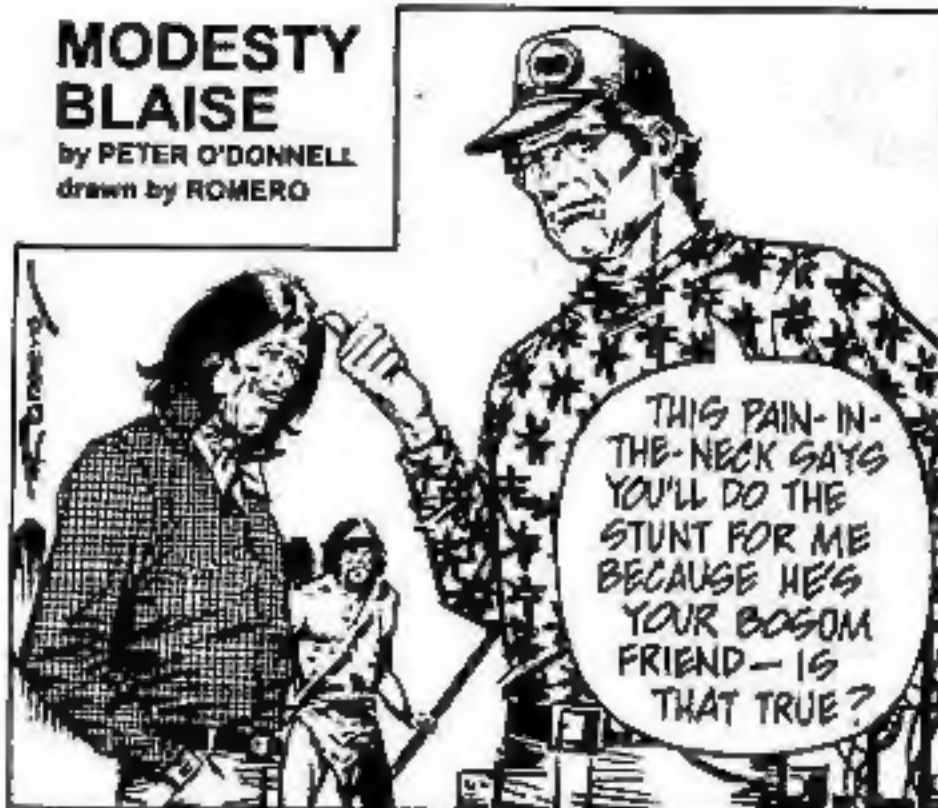
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MODESTY BLAISE

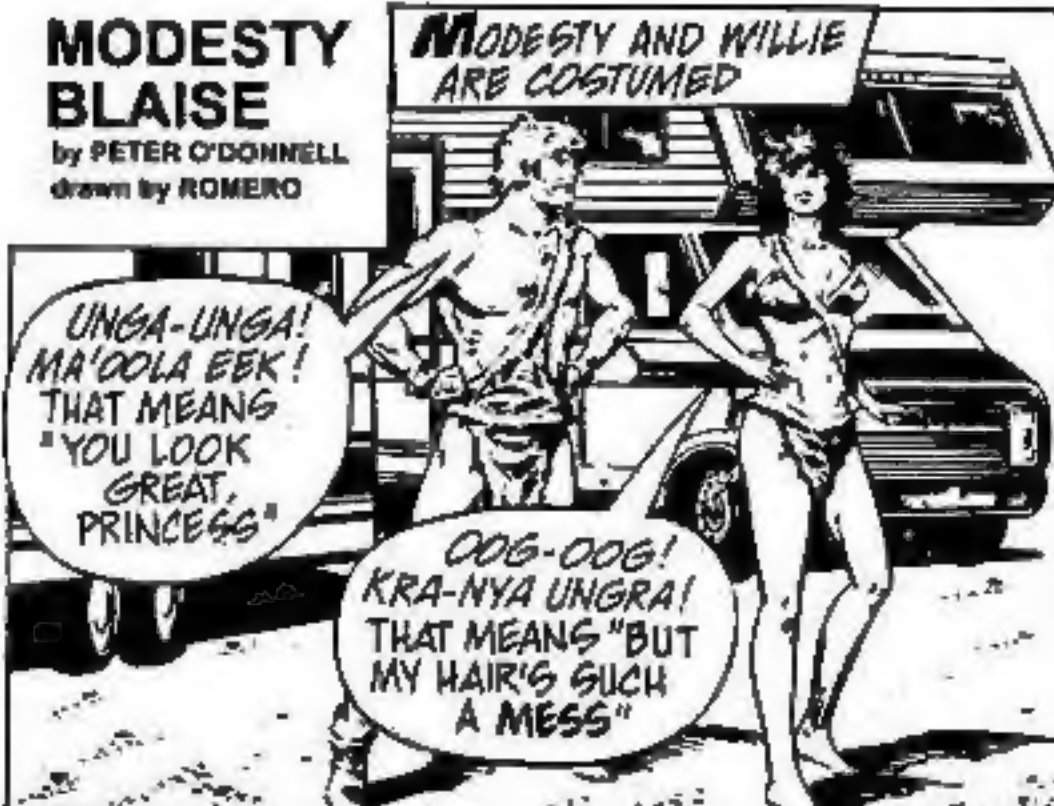
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drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY BLAISE

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MODESTY AND WILLIE ARE COSTUMED



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

ON SITE...



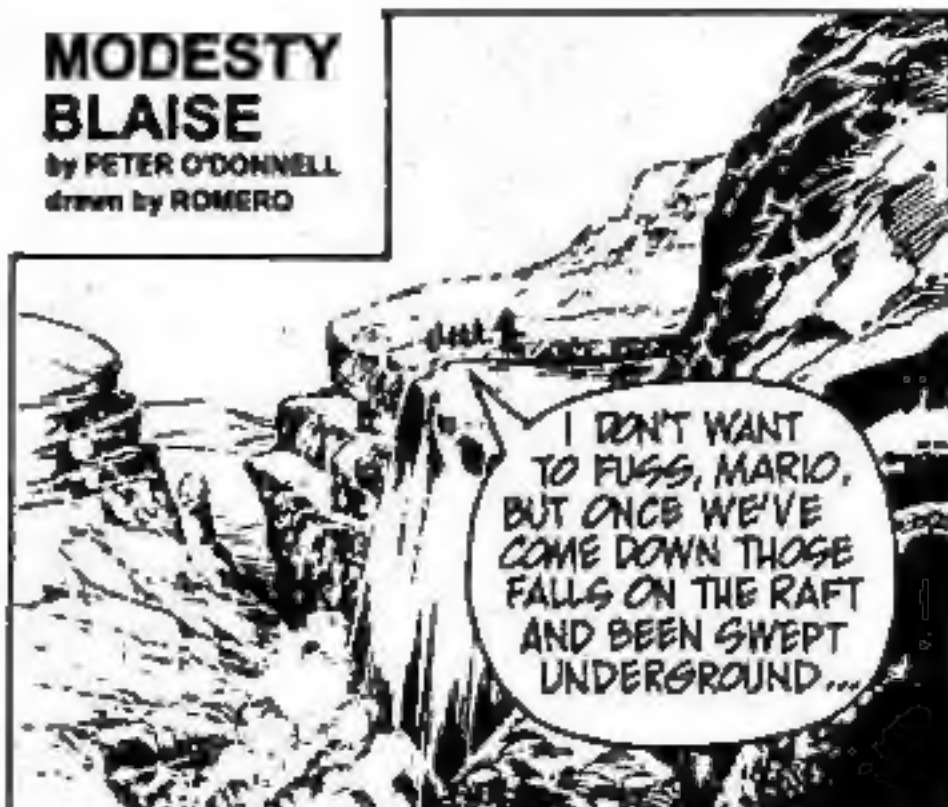
MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



I DON'T WANT TO FUSS, MARIO, BUT ONCE WE'VE COME DOWN THOSE FALLS ON THE RAFT AND BEEN SWEEP UNDERGROUND...



OH MY GOD, YOU DON'T DO THAT! THERE'S A SUBMERGED CABLE ACROSS THE RIVER TO STOP YOU GOING OVER THE FALLS



OH, WELL... THAT MAKES IT A BIT OF A TEA-PARTY

NO- IF THE RAFT TURNS OVER YOU'RE IN TROUBLE- IT'S A STUNT-MAN'S JOB, WILLIE

B410

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



THE CABLE STOPS YOUR RAFT ON THE EDGE OF THE FALLS, THEN WE CUT, AND SUBSTITUTE DUMMIES TO GO OVER THE FALLS AND UNDERGROUND WITH THE RIVER



BUT WE HAVE TO HAVE YOU PADDLING FRANTICALLY RIGHT UP TO THAT POINT

WHERE DOES THE RIVER SURFACE AGAIN?



TWO OR THREE MILES EAST, BUT WE DON'T KNOW WHAT IT DOES UNDER THE MOUNTAIN- NOBODY WHO'S GONE IN HAS EVER COME OUT

B411

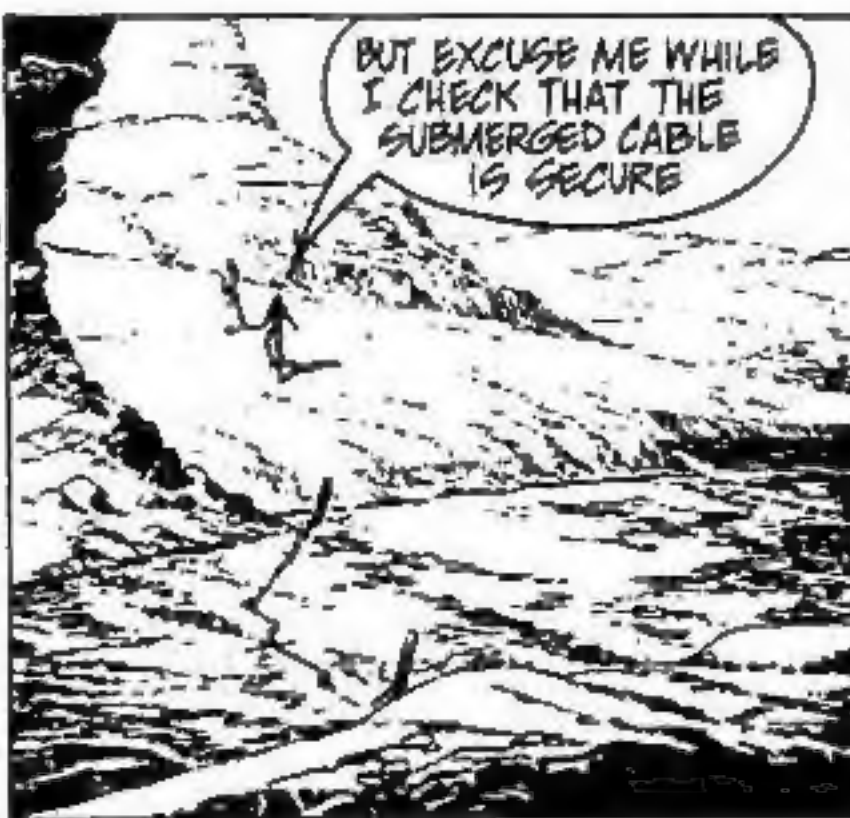
MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



I AM GOING TO KISS WEEBIE GOODBYE- I MEAN AU REVOIR- BEFORE HE GOES ON THE RAFT- AREN'T YOU JEALOUS, GUIDO?

ER- MADLY SO, MY TREASURE



BUT EXCUSE ME WHILE I CHECK THAT THE SUBMERGED CABLE IS SECURE



THE RAFT'S WAITING HALF-A-MILE UP-RIVER- ARE YOU ALL SET?

LET'S GO

B412

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



WEEBIE! WAIT!

STAND BY FOR A WARM EMBRACE, WILLIE LOVE



I SHALL BE PRAYING TO SAINT NICHOLAS FOR YOU- OH, AND FOR MODESTY

SAINT NICHOLAS? IS HE THE PATRON SAINT OF CAVEMEN?



NO. OF SAILORS, WEEBIE!

SAILORS? OH, AND WE'RE GOING ON A RAFT- YES, GOOD THINKING, ANIELA

B413

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

OKAY FOR CONTINUITY?

YES, MR. TERINGO — WILLIE HAS THE LEATHER BAG, AND THERE ARE NO OTHER PROPS

RIGHT... ACTION!

THE MOORING IS CAST OFF, AND THE RAFT GOES BUCKETING AWAY AT SPEED

DID YOU SAY THIS WOULD BE A TEA PARTY?

SORRY! MORE LIKE A LIQUID ROLLER COASTER

8414

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

YES, THAT IS MORE SECURE... NOW WHERE IS MY ADORED ANIELA?

ABOVE THE FALLS...

AH, HERE SHE COMES

THE RAFT IS ON ITS WAY! I RACED IT TO BE HERE WHEN THE CABLE STOPS IT! WILL THEY BE SAFE, GUIDO?

CALM YOURSELF, CARISSIMA — I HAVE CHECKED ALL SAFETY MEASURES

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

THE RAFT IS HELD IN MIDSTREAM AS THE FIERCE CURRENT SWEEPS IT ALONG

I THINK WE'RE GETTING THE HANG OF IT, PRINCESS!

YES... MAYBE THIS TIME GUIDO ISN'T GOING TO BE A JINK!

LOOKING GOOD, BOSS — THEY'RE PAST THE BEND WHERE THE OTHER STUNT PAIR GOT HURT
THAT'S WHAT HAD ME WORRIED — THEY SHOULD BE OKAY NOW

8415

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

CAST AND FILM CREW WATCH AS THE RACING WATERS CARRY MODESTY AND WILLIE TOWARDS THE FALLS

THAT CABLE HAD BETTER HOLD

NO PROBLEM — I RE-SECURED IT WITH A KNOT OF MY OWN INVENTION

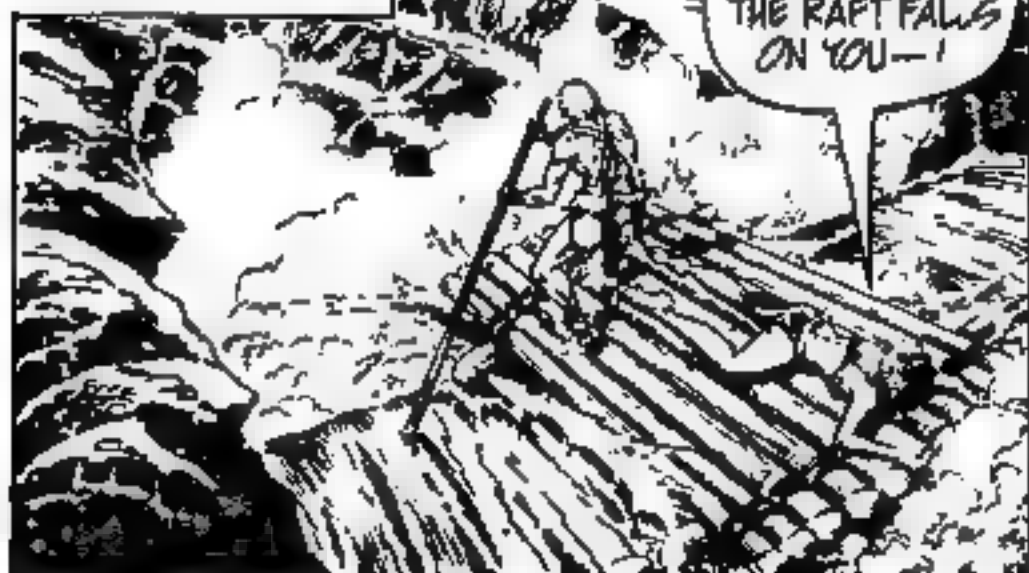
YOU DID WHAT?

THE RAFT STRIKES... THE SUBMERGED CABLE FLIES FREE AT ONE END, AND A SUDDEN LURCH SENDS MODESTY SPRAWLING

8416

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

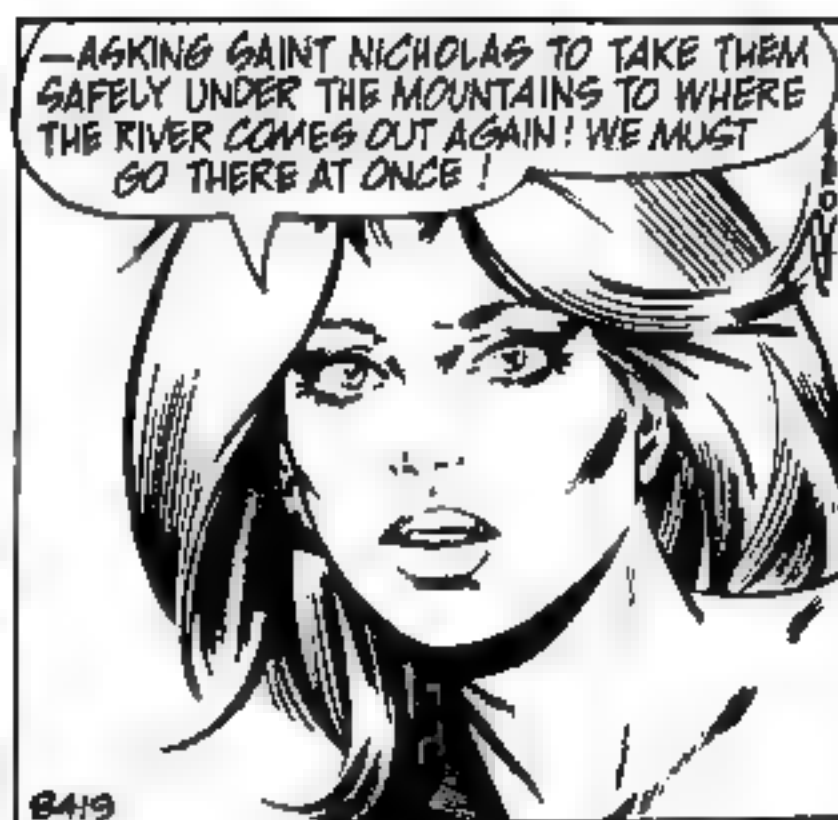


THE WATCHERS ON THE BANK GAZE IN HORROR AS MODESTY AND WILLIE ARE SWEEPED INTO THE DARKNESS OF THE UNKNOWN BENEATH THE MOUNTAIN



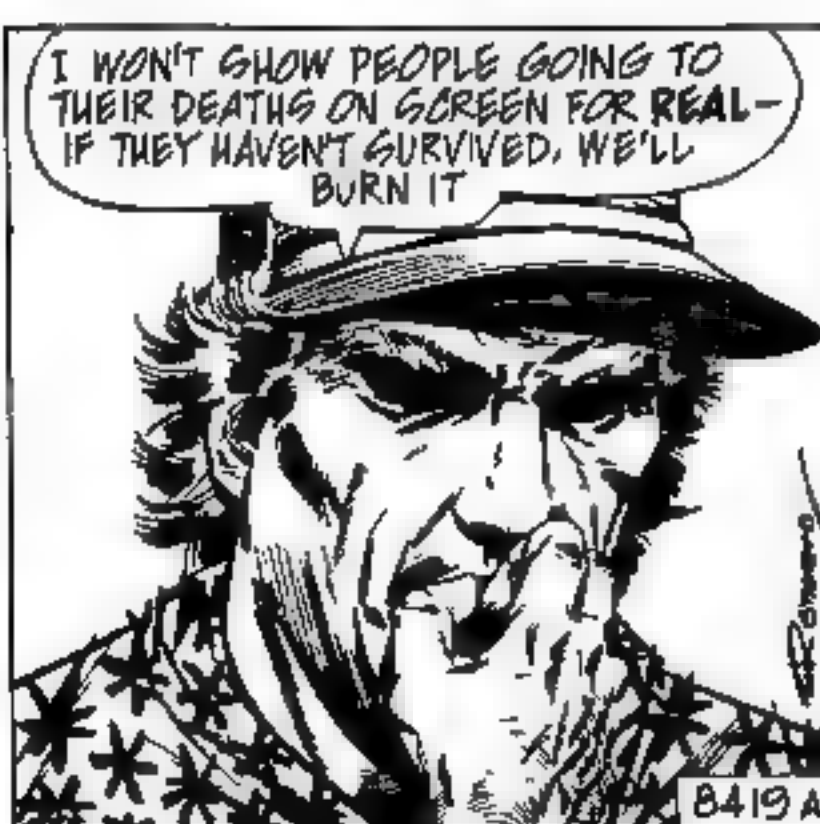
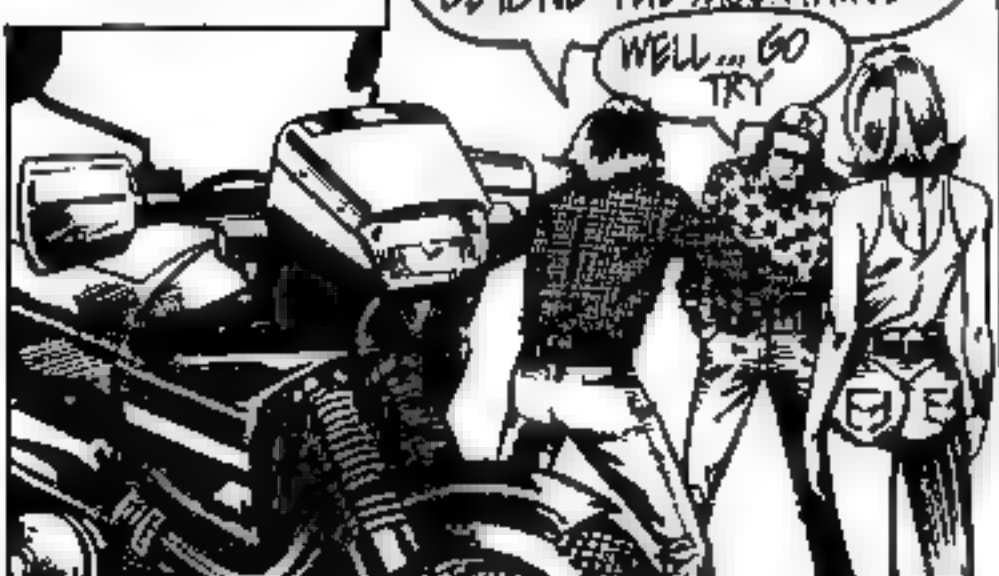
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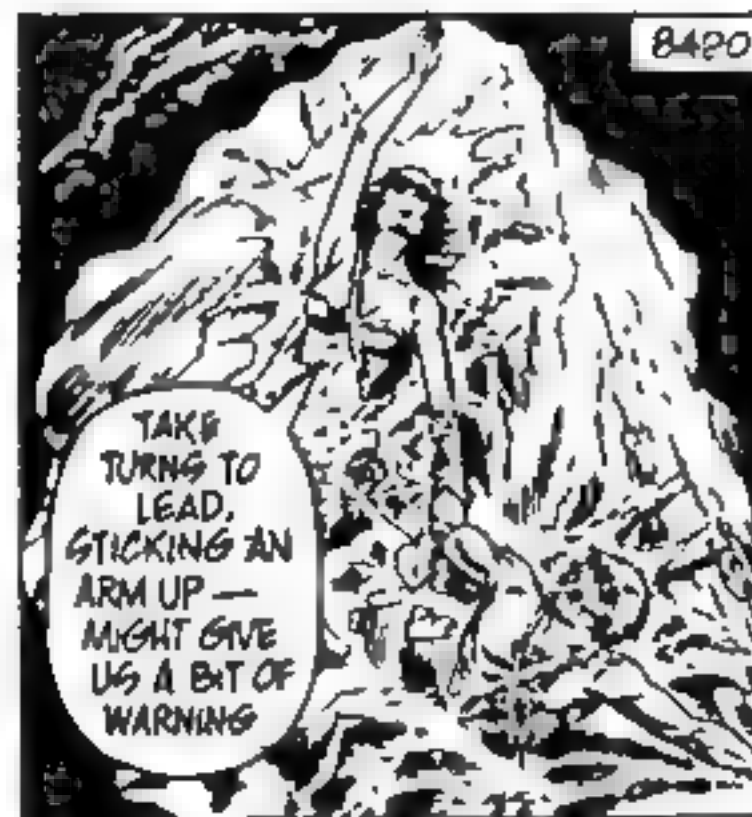
IN TOTAL DARKNESS, MODESTY SHOUTS ABOVE THE NOISE OF RUSHING WATER

CAN YOU HEAR ME, WILLIE?



YES! LET'S 'ANG ON TO EACH OTHER! IF THE ROOF DIPS, ONE OF US COULD GET A CRACK ON THE HEAD

THAT'S WHAT I WAS GOING TO SAY



8420

TAKE TURNING TO LEAD, STICKING AN ARM UP — MIGHT GIVE US A BIT OF WARNING

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

GUIDO AND ANIELA GET OFF TO FIND THEIR WAY ACROSS THE MOUNTAINS

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE, GUIDO?

GOD KNOWS! SAY SOME MORE PRAYERS



HOLY ST. BERNARD OF AOSTA — I KNOW YOU ARE THE PATRON SAINT OF MOUNTAINEERS AND I REALISE THAT MODESTY AND WILLIE ARE IN THE RIVER UNDER THE MOUNTAIN ...



MARIO SAID THIS RAN FOR TWO OR THREE MILES, BUT THERE MUST BE PROBLEMS IF NOBODY'S EVER COME OUT

BUT IF YOU COULD PLEASE STRETCH A POINT ...?

8421

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

CURRENTS PICKING UP A BIT — MAYBE THIS OPENS OUT INTO A CAVE

MAYBE ...



BUT IF NOT, IF THE ROOF DIPS BELOW THE SURFACE, WE'LL JUST HAVE TO BREATHE DEEP, GO WITH IT, AND HOPE IT'S NOT FOR TOO LONG —



WITHOUT WARNING MODESTY AND WILLIE ARE GEIZED BY A TREMENDOUS CURRENT THAT GLUCKS THEM HELPLESSLY DOWN, FATHOM AFTER FATHOM

MY GOD, IT'S LIKE A WATERFALL BELOW THE SURFACE!



8422

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



WE'RE BEING CARRIED DOWN A BLOODY GREAT PIT!

MUST 'ANG ON TO THE PRINCESS— MUST 'ANG ON...

AT NINETY FEET THE CURRENT CHANGES, SWIRLING ALONG A BEDDING PLANE

WE CAN'T LAST MORE THAN ANOTHER COUPLE OF MINUTES... WHAT A DAMN USELESS WAY TO GO...



ABRUPTLY THE WATER GROWS QUIET

WE'RE GOING UP AGAIN!



STILL A CHANCE MAYBE...

8423

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

TWO HEADS BREAK THE SURFACE... THE DARKNESS REMAINS TOTAL, BUT THE WATERS ARE STILL AND THE ONLY SOUND IS OF HEAVING LUNGS



AHHHH...!

WHERE THE... WELL ARE WE?



I THOUGHT P'RAPS I WAS DEAD, SO IT'S NICE TO 'EAR YOUR VOICE, PRINCESS

I HOPE BEING DEAD IS MORE INTERESTING THAN THIS...

IN THE MOUNTAINS...

HOLY ST ANTONY OF PADUA, PATRON SAINT FOR LOST ARTICLES—I KNOW MODESTY AND WILLIE ARE NOT ARTICLES, BUT THEY ARE LOST...



8424

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



I MUST COMPOSE A HEARTFELT APOLOGY IN THE HOPE THAT WE FIND MODESTY AND WILLIE ALIVE...

JUST DRIVE, GUIDO!



I WILL APOLOGISE FOR YOU—BY TAKING WEEVIE ON A HOLIDAY OF UNGOVERNABLE PASSION!

I THINK PERHAPS I WILL NOT MAKE A SIMILAR OFFER TO MODESTY

BENEATH THE MOUNTAIN...

THERE ARE ECHOES WHEN WE SPEAK, WILLIE... I THINK WE'RE IN A BIG CAVE



8424A

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



I CAN FEEL SOMETHING... A TAPERING BIT OF ROCK

SO CAN I—MUST BE STALACTITES

LET'S AVE A LOOK



AH, SO YOU DIDN'T LOSE THAT BAG THE CONTINUITY GIRL GAVE YOU?

NO, I WAS WEARING IT LIKE A HAVERGACK

AND WE'AD THE SAPPY THOUGHT OF PUTTING OUR EMERGENCY BEAR IN IT



WHICH MEANS WE HAVE A LIGHT-STICK, THANK GOD

8425

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

WILLIE BREAKS THE LIGHT-STICK... THE CHEMICALS COMBINE, AND A COLD LIGHT PUGHS BACK THE DARKNESS

CAVE... STALACTITES... NO WAY OUT

A FREAK TRAP

WE WERE CARRIED DOWN AN ENORMOUS PIT, ALONG A BEDDING PLANE, THEN UP 'ERE... BUT THERE MUST BE AN UP-CURRENT SOMEWHERE IN THAT PIT

...IF ONLY WE CAN FIND IT!

YOU MEAN AFTER WE'VE GOT TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS LOT, THEN BACK ALONG THE BEDDING PLANE AGAINST THE CURRENT

OH, WILLIE...

8426

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

HOW DEEP D'YOU RECKON THIS IS, PRINCESS?

I'D SAY WE CAME UP ABOUT... FIFTEEN FATHOMS

AND THE COLD'S SAPPING OUR STRENGTH

IT'S GOING TO BE HELLISH TOUGH, SWIMMING DOWN TO THAT DEPTH WITH NO WEIGHTS

WE'D NEVER 'AVE ENOUGH JUICE LEFT TO GET ALONG THE BEDDING PLANE AND—

WILLIE! MAYBE WE'VE GOT WEIGHTS—AND A FREE RIDE DOWN!

8427

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

IN THE MOUNTAINS...

I WILL NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF IF MODESTY AND WILLIE ARE... DEAD

YOU ALWAYS BRING THEM TROUBLE BECAUSE YOU ARE STUPID AND VAIN AND DECEITFUL!

BUT WE D.D HAVE TO STOP YOU DIVING IN TO HELP THEM—EVEN THOUGH YOU CANNOT SWIM

THAT WAS NICE

MORE STUPID THAN NICE, I THINK

BENEATH THE MOUNTAIN, MODESTY AND WILLIE SELECT A STALACTITE NEAR THE CAVE WALL

THIRTY SECONDS TO SUMMON UP FULL KI, THEN WE GO FOR BROKE, WILLIE

RIGHT

8428

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

A SUDDEN EXPLOSION OF POWER, AND THE STALACTITE SNAPS...

HAI!

...CARRYING MODESTY AND WILLIE WITH IT AS IT PLUNGES DOWN THROUGH THE ICY WATERS

IT'S WORKING!

NO ENERGY LOST GETTING DOWN...

LIGHT-STICK'S WATERPROOF, AND WE CAN LOCATE THE BEDDING PLANE BY THE ADVERSE CURRENT... WE'RE IN WITH A CHANCE

8429

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

HERE'S THE BEDDING PLANE—
AND THIS IS WHERE IT GETS
TOUGH



THE FORCE OF WATER THROUGH THE
HORIZONTAL STRETCH IS DAUNTING

MOVING TOO SLOW—WE CAN'T
LAST OUT AT THIS RATE



CURRENTS
WEAKER
UP HERE,
TOO

AH, THAT'S THE
ANSWER! PULL
YOURSELF ALONG
THE ROOF!

8429A

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

FIGHTING AGAINST THE CURRENT,
MODESTY AND WILLIE CLAW THEIR
WAY ALONG THE TRAVERSE



AND EMERGE INTO THE HOPED-FOR UP-
CURRENT ON THE DOWN-RIVER SIDE OF
THE GREAT PIT



EXHALE...
MUSTN'T
GO UP TOO
FAST

TWENTY SECONDS LATER...

AHHH...! WE MADE
IT—WE'RE IN THE UNDER-
GROUND RIVER AGAIN

WHOOOO...! LET'S HOPE
THERE'S NO MORE SURPRISES
BEFORE IT REACHES DAYLIGHT

8430

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

THIS COLD IS A KILLER—
PUT YOURSELF IN YOGA MODE
AND I'LL KEEP YOU AFLOAT—
WE'LL GWOP IN FIVE
MINUTES

OKAY...
BUT LADIES
FIRST



IN THE
MOUNTAINS...

NOW WHAT?
WHICH TRACK
LEADS DOWN
TO THE
RIVER?

YOU CHOOSE,
GUIDO



WE'LL...
THAT
WAY

GOOD, NOW TAKE THE OTHER TRACK—
WE MUST USE YOUR GIFT FOR
BEING WRONG, GUIDO

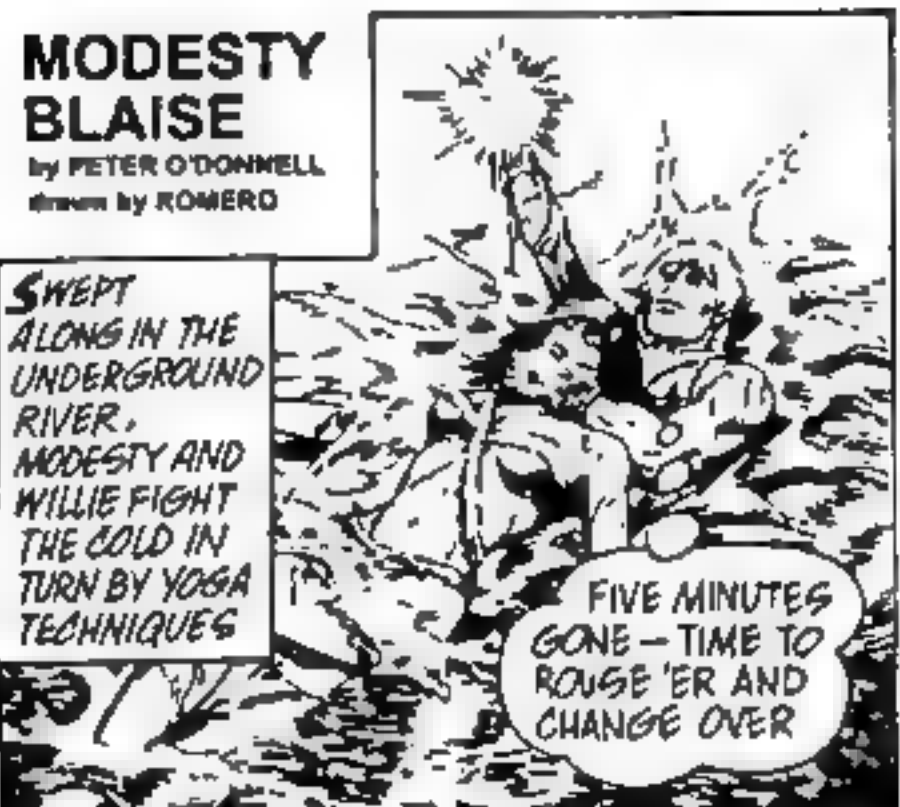


8431

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

SWEPT
ALONG IN THE
UNDERGROUND
RIVER,
MODESTY AND
WILLIE FIGHT
THE COLD IN
TURN BY YOGA
TECHNIQUES



FIVE MINUTES
GONE—TIME TO
ROUSE 'ER AND
CHANGE OVER

AND AT
LAST



DAYLIGHT!

WAKE UP,
WILLIE LOVE!
WE'RE
OUT!



AHHH... FEEL
THAT LOVELY
SUN!

YES... WE'LL
REST AND DRY OFF,
THEN MAKE OUR
WAY BACK TO THE
FILM UNIT AND
KILL GUIDO

8432

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

FOR A FULL HOUR, MODESTY AND WILLIE REST IN THE SUN



M'MM... BUT POOR OLD GUIDO...

AT LEAST WE GAVE THE FILM CREW A GREAT STUNT

WE'LL BE SHATTERED THINKING WE'RE DEAD— AND ANELA WILL GIVE HIM HELL!



WELL... LET'S GET STARTED

LEAD ON, PRINCESS— YOU KNOW YOUR WAY 'OME FROM ANYWHERE



8433

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



I'M GLAD THEY PROVIDED ME WITH CAVE MAN'S NATTY FOOT-WEAR— I WASN'T BORN WITH LEATHER SOLES LIKE YOU



I WASN'T BORN WITH THEM, WILLIE— I GOT THEM FROM BEING UNSHOD TILL I WAS IN MY TEENS

ALONG THE TRACK AN INJURED MAN WAITS FOR DEATH— AND HEARS VOICES DRAWING NEAR



GO NOW THEY COME LOOKING FOR ME— BUT I WILL TAKE A COUPLE OF THEM WITH ME, BY GOD

8434

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



OW LONG D'YOU RECKON IT'LL TAKE TO GET BACK TO THE FILM UNIT?

AT LEAST THE REST OF TODAY...



MAYBE WITH AN OVERNIGHT STOP IF WE HAVE TO MAKE A SERIOUS CLIMB

MY SLINGS IN THE EMERGENCY KIT...



WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET SOMETHING FOR SUPPER WITH ANY LUCK

8434A

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



I DON'T WONDER WERE THE ONLY ONE EVER TO COME OUT OF THAT RIVER ALIVE—

HI, MODESTY, HI, WILLIE— WHAT'S NEW?



WHO THE HELL—?

ONLY ONE MAN EVER CALLS ME WILLIE!



IT IS NOT POLITE TO PASS AN OLD FRIEND WITHOUT SAYING HALLO

MY GOD, IT'S COLONEL GREG!

8435

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



COLONEL GREB, WHO HAD DEALINGS WITH MODESTY IN THE NETWORK DAYS AND WHO ONCE SAVED WILLIE FROM BEING SHOT



8436

MODESTY BLAISE

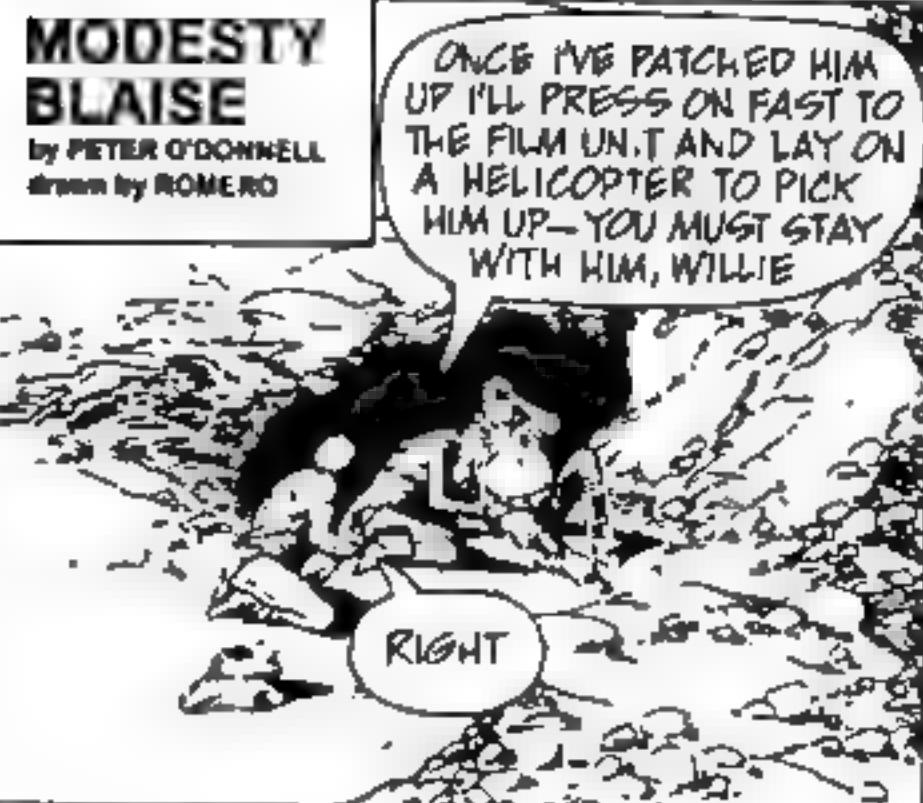
by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



8437

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



8438

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



8439

Modesty BLAISE

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



WHAT HAPPENED?

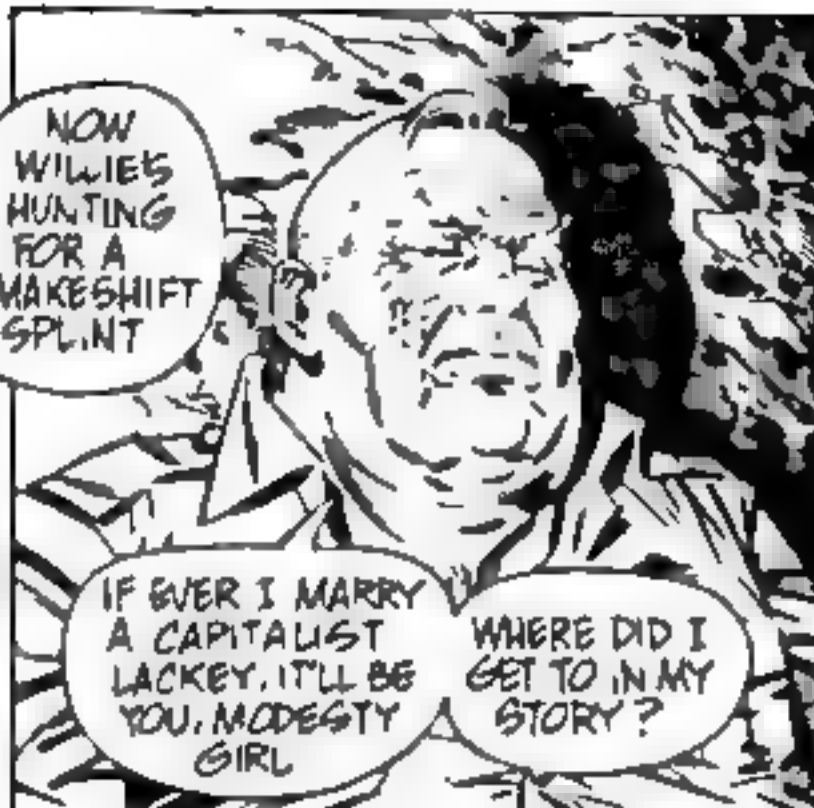
YOU PASSED OUT— BUT WHILE YOU WERE AWAY I GOT THE BULLET OUT AND CLEANED THE WOUND

NOW WILLIE'S HUNTING FOR A MAKESHIFT SPLINT

IF EVER I MARRY A CAPITALIST LACKEY, IT'LL BE YOU, MODESTY GIRL

WHERE DID I GET TO IN MY STORY?

COLONEL GREB COMES TO...



YOU WERE IN CHARGE OF SOLDIERS GUARDING AN ABANDONED MONASTERY USED FOR STORING URANIUM, AND LAST NIGHT IT WAS ATTACKED



AH, YES... BY PARACHUTE DROP

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



I HAD FIVE MEN ON GUARD EACH SHIFT, BUT ONLY ONE RAISED THE ALARM— I THINK THE OTHERS WERE KILLED SILENTLY

I HADN'T GONE TO BED AND I TRIED TO ORGANISE A DEFENCE, BUT IT WAS TOO LATE— A GRENADE WIPED OUT HALF OF THOSE LEFT



THE REST OF US WERE CAUGHT IN CROSSFIRE— THAT'S WHEN I GOT A BULLET IN THE LEG AND PLAYED DEAD



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



YOU DON'T KNOW WHO MADE THE ATTACK?

OH YES... A TEAM OF MERCENARIES LED BY KUNG-LI



WHEN I WAS PLAYING DEAD, I HEARD HIM GIVE ORDERS IN ENGLISH— HE ALWAYS USES THAT AS A COMMON LANGUAGE WHEN HE PUTS A TEAM TOGETHER

YES, I KNOW KUNG-LI'S STYLE



HOW DID HE GET THE URANIUM AWAY?

HE DIDN'T— HE SPOKE OF A HELICOPTER COMING TO PICK IT UP TONIGHT

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



IF SOME MINI-HITLER GETS THAT URANIUM TO MAKE ATOM BOMBS, I'LL BE TO BLAME



YOU THINK WILLIE AND I CAN STOP IT?

I CAN'T ASK FOR THAT— YOU PAID YOUR DEBT WHEN YOU STOPPED NOVIKOV KILLING ME THAT DAY ON THE FINNISH BORDER



COLONEL, YOU ONCE SAVED WILLIE GAVIN'S LIFE... AND FOR ME THAT WILL ALWAYS BE AN UNPAID DEBT

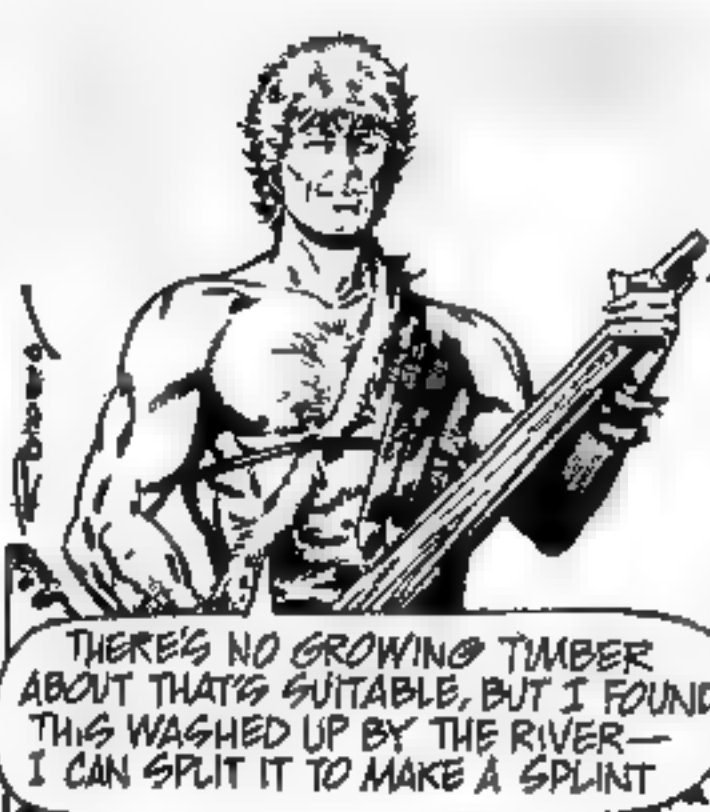
MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

WILLIE RETURNS



I SIGHTED THE MONASTERY, PRINCESS—AND I FOUND A PARACHUTE AND A MAGAZINE OF AMMO



THERE'S NO GROWING TIMBER ABOUT THAT'S SUITABLE, BUT I FOUND THIS WASHED UP BY THE RIVER—I CAN SPLIT IT TO MAKE A SPLINT



THANKS, VILLIE

AND WHILE YOU'RE DOING THAT I'LL TELL YOU THE REST OF COLONEL GREB'S STORY

8445

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

MID-AFTERNOON, AND COLONEL GREB DOZES



THE FILM UNIT HAS A RADIO LINK TO SAMARKAND, BUT IT'S TOO LATE NOW FOR ME TO REACH THEM BEFORE DARK AND CALL FOR HELP



WE'LL HAVE TO TACKLE KUNG-LI AND HIS MERCENARIES ON OUR OWN, WILLIE—I KNOW WE'RE NOT TOO WELL EQUIPPED...



BUT WE HAVE YOUR KNIVES AND YOUR SLING, GREB'S PISTOL, SOME CARTRIDGES THAT DON'T FIT, AND SOME OFF-CUTS OF WOOD—

THEY'D SURRENDER IF THEY KNEW!

8446

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



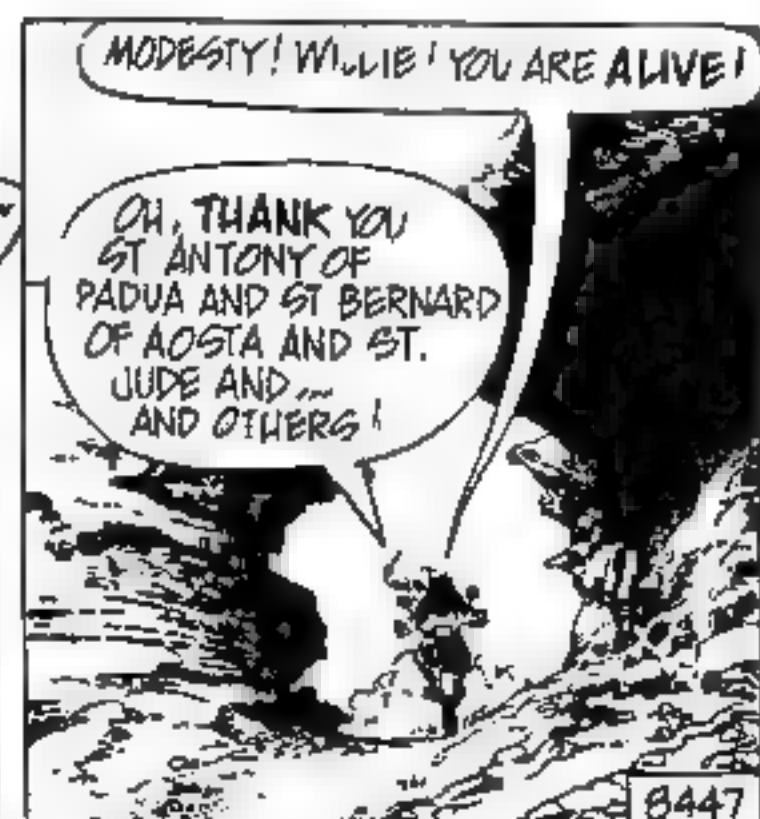
WE'LL HAVE TO REACH THE MONASTERY BEFORE DARK, AND WORK OUT SOME SORT OF PLAN—

SHHH! WHAT'S THAT NOISE?



IT'S... A MOTORCYCLE! THAT MEANS OUR FAVOURITE JINX HAS CAUGHT UP WITH US!

GUIDO? OH, NO!



MODESTY! WILLIE! YOU ARE ALIVE!

OH, THANK YOU ST ANTONY OF PADUA AND ST BERNARD OF AOSTA AND ST. JUDE AND... AND OTHERS!

8447

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



I WILL WRITE A STUPENDOUS FEATURE ABOUT YOUR ESCAPE FROM DEATH—!

SWITCH THAT MOTOR OFF AND STOP YELLING, GUIDO!



WELLIE! YOU ARE SAFE! AND UNHURT? AND NOT EXHAUSTED?

I HAVE TOLD GUIDO I WILL TAKE YOU ON A LUSTFUL HOLIDAY TO MAKE UP FOR WHAT HE DID!



THAT'S GREAT, ANIELA, BUT WE'VE GOT A LITTLE JOB TO DO FIRST

DIO MIO! A WOUNDED SOLDIER!

8448

MODESTY BLAISE

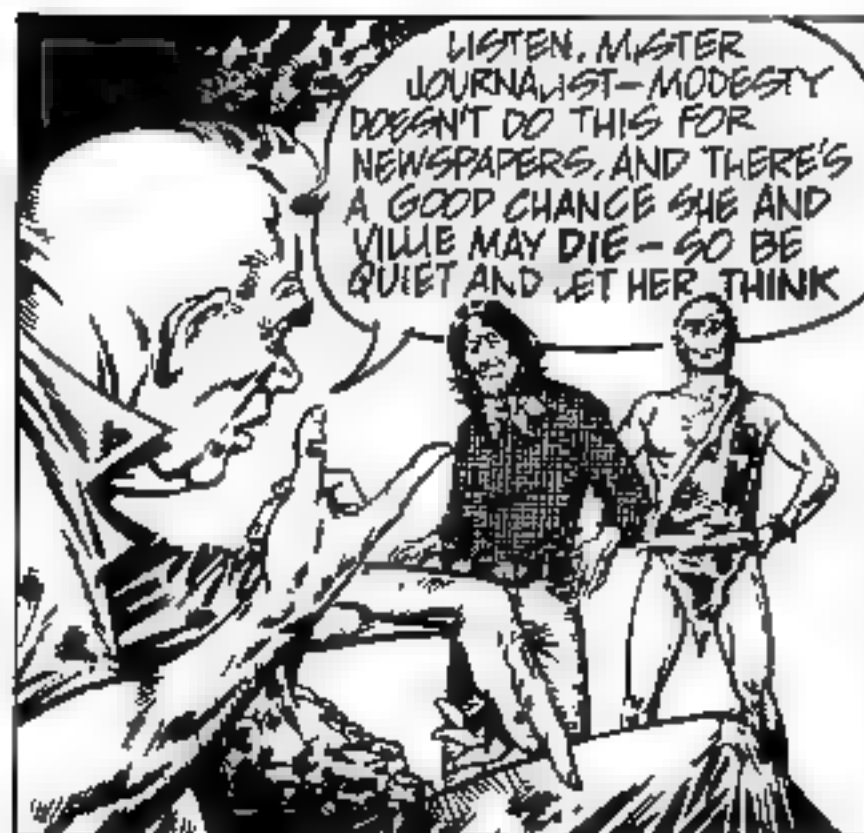
by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

GUIDO AND ANIELA ARE PUT IN THE PICTURE



WHAT A STORY! TOGETHER WE WILL DEFEAT THESE MONSTERS! AND I WILL WRITE—

WILL YOU SHUT UP, GUIDO!



LISTEN, MISTER JOURNALIST—MODESTY DOESN'T DO THIS FOR NEWSPAPERS, AND THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE SHE AND VILLE MAY DIE—SO BE QUIET AND LET HER THINK



OR I ARRANGE FOR THAT MYSELF—YOU UNDERSTAND?

COMPLETELY COLONEL! SPLENDID GUN YOU HAVE!

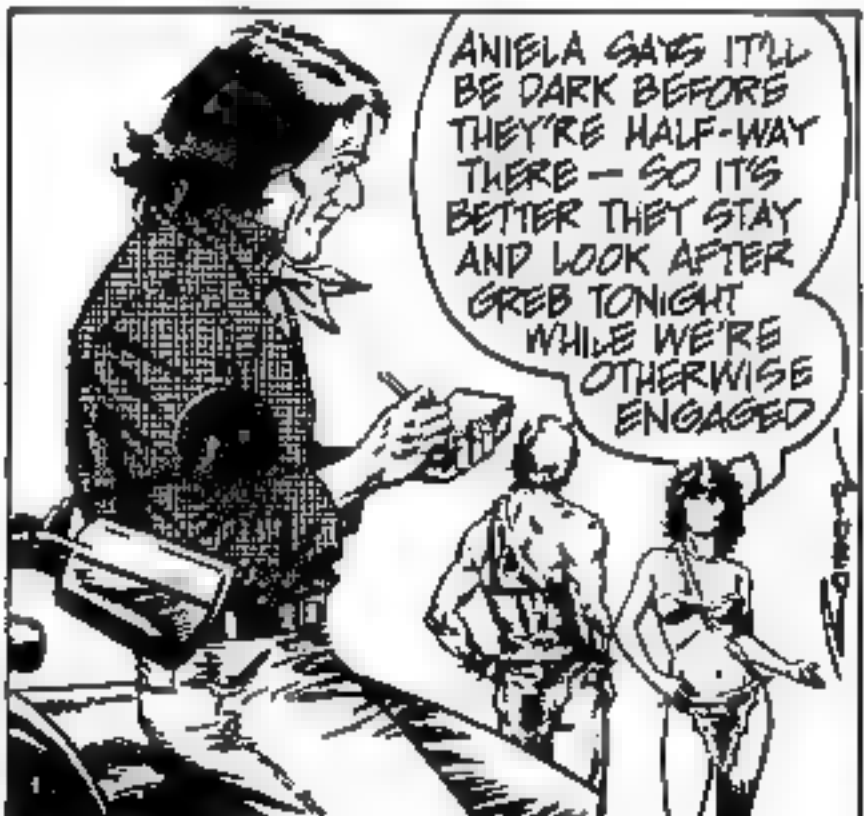
"THE RUSSIAN OFFICER WAS SOMEWHAT HYSTERICAL, BUT I SKILFULLY HUMOURED HIM..." NEW PARAGRAPH

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

HOW ABOUT SENDING GUIDO AND ANIELA BACK ON THE MOTORBIKE? THE FILM UNIT CAN USE THEIR RADIO TO CONTACT GREB'S PEOPLE

TOO LATE, WILLIE...



ANIELA SAYS IT'LL BE DARK BEFORE THEY'RE HALF-WAY THERE—SO IT'S BETTER THEY STAY AND LOOK AFTER GREB TONIGHT WHILE WE'RE OTHERWISE ENGAGED



RIGHT... I'LL SEE IF GUIDO'S BIKE CAN PROVIDE ANY BITS AND PIECES FOR 'OSTILE USE

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

TOOL-KIT, MATCHES, CANS OF FOOD, WATER, INSULATING TAPE, PUNCTURE REPAIR—GUIDO'S GOT AN ALADDIN'S CAVE 'ERE, PRINCESS



WITH POWDER FROM THOSE CARTRIDGES I FOUND, I CAN MAKE BOMBS NOW—STRIP OF CLOTH SOAKED IN PETROL FOR A FUSE—GUIDO'S SHIRT WILL PROVIDE



I EXPECT YOU COULD CUT A SHORT-RANGE BOW FROM THIS—BUT WHAT ABOUT ARROWS?

SPOKES FROM THE BIKE, SHARPENED—I'LL HAVE TO FIGURE OUT THE FLIGHTS

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

SOME HOURS BEFORE SUNDOWN
THERE IT IS, PRINCESS!



TWO GUARDS ON LOOK-OUT ALREADY—KUNG-LI TAKES NO CHANCES

GREB RECKONED MAYBE A DOZEN MERCENARIES, AND KUNG-LI PICKS THE BEST... NICE IF I COULD COME DOWN ON THE ROOF FROM ABOVE



COULD WE USE THAT BLACK 'CHUTE YOU FOUND?

THERE'S NO PACK FOR IT... BUT THE PILOT 'CHUTE'S INTACT, AND THE DROP'S HIGH ENOUGH

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

IN THE MONASTERY... KUNG-LI, ACE MERCENARY, ADDRESSES HIS MEN. DRAWN FROM SIX NATIONALITIES

WE TOOK THIS PLACE EASY...

...BECAUSE THE RUSSIAN SOLDIERS THOUGHT NOBODY KNEW WHAT WAS HERE, AND NOBODY WOULD ATTACK

WELL, NOBODY KNOWS WE'RE HERE

8452

BUT I'M POSTING GUARDS DAY AND NIGHT, AND IF I FIND ANY MAN ASLEEP ON GUARD I'LL KILL HIM

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

WHEN'S THE CHOPPER COMING TO PICK UP THE URANIUM, KUNG-LI?

ANY TIME AFTER NIGHTFALL—BUT WE WAIT TILL IT'S HERE BEFORE WE BRING THE STUFF UP

8453

IN THE VALLEY...

HOW YOU GOING TO SEAL YOUR BOMBS, VILLIE?

FIBRE-GLASS ROUND THE WID—THERE'S A TUBE OF IT IN GUIDO'S TOOL KIT

DON'T BE SCARED—IT'S ALL SEALED IN LEAD CONTAINERS, SAFER THAN A LUMINOUS WATCH—BESIDES YOU'RE GETTING TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS A PIECE FOR THIS JOB

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

AH! DO YOU WANT HELP TO FOLD THE PARACHUTE, MODESTY?

LET ME PUT IT THIS WAY, GUIDO...

IF YOU SO MUCH AS BREATHE ON THIS CHUTE, I'LL TEAR YOUR LEG OFF AND BEAT YOUR BRAINS OUT WITH IT

8454

I CAN TAKE A HINT, MY ANGEL...

"MODESTY WAS ON EDGE, SO I TOLD HER TO FOLD THE PARACHUTE, FEELING IT BEST TO KEEP HER OCCUPIED" NEW PARAGRAPH

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

WE'LL NEED TO RIG A RELEASE FOR THIS CHUTE, WILLIE

SURE... I'LL USE RADIATING CORDS FIXED WITH A HIGHWAYMAN'S KNOT

YOU'LL TAKE MY GUN, MODESTY GIRL—ONLY TWO SHOTS LEFT, BUT THEY MIGHT HELP

THANKS, COLONEL—I WON'T WASTE THEM

8454 A

HOW'S THE ARCHERY DEPARTMENT?

WELL, IT'S A PATCHWORK JOB, BUT IT'LL BE GOOD ENOUGH FOR A COUPLE OF ARROWS—I THINK

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

I CUT THE FLIGHTS OUT OF PLASTIC STIFFENERS FROM GREGG'S COLLAR, AND STUCK 'EM ON THE SPOKES WITH FIBREGLASS

WITH A SLIVER OF WOOD UNDER THE COCK-FEATHER...



...SO I CAN NOCK THE ARROW ON THE STRING - NICE WORK, WILLIE

THE BOW'S SHORT BECAUSE THE SPOKES ARE SHORT, BUT IT'S GOT A TWENTY POUND PULL

THE BOWSTRINGS SPARE BRAKE CABLE AND THE WHOLE THING'S MORE LIKE A CROSSBOW THAN A LONG-BOW - I OPE IT WORKS!

WE'LL SEE... IT FEELS OKAY FOR SHORT RANGE



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

GUIDO'S BIKE?

WILLIE, WE CAN'T BOTH DROP BY PARACHUTE, SO YOU'VE GOT TO GO IN AT THE FRONT, BUT THERE'S NO COVER FOR A SNEAKY APPROACH, SO -



YES, BUT YOU'LL NEED BOTH HANDS FREE TO COPE WITH TROUBLE AS YOU GO IN - WHICH MEANS ENLISTING GUIDO TO DRIVE, WITH YOU RIDING PILLION



BUT INVOLVING GUIDO SCARES ME RIDID!

HE'S A GOOD BIKER, PRINCESS - I'M GAME

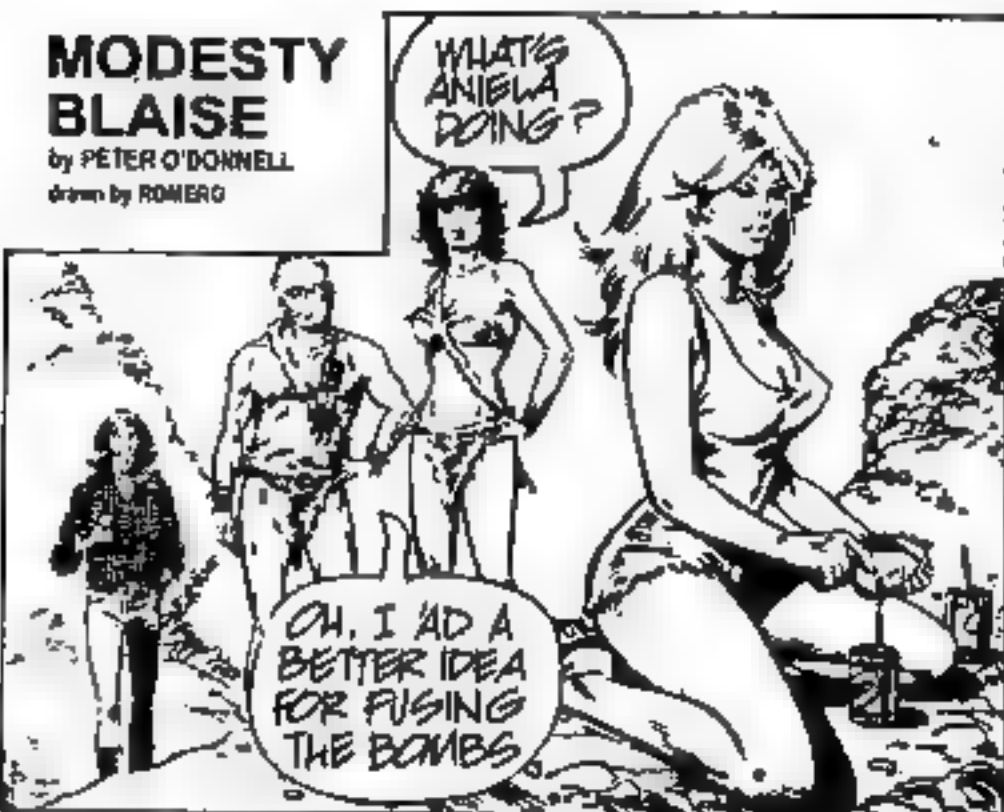


MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

WHAT'S ANIELA DOING?

OH, I AD A BETTER IDEA FOR FUSING THE BOMBS



WISELY I CARRIED SOME COKES AND A PACKET OF STRAWS AMONG MY SUPPLIES

...MIXED WITH SAND TO SLOW THE RATE OF BURNING - A THREE-SECOND FUSE, I RECKON

SO ANIELA'S FILING A COUPLE OF STRAWS WITH POWDER FROM THE CARTRIDGES...



THERE ARE TIMES WHEN I'M QUITE GLAD YOU'RE AROUND, WILLIE GARVIN



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

WE'RE PUTTING UP A GOOD PRETENCE, WILLIE, BUT WE'RE NOT LIKELY TO COME OUT OF THIS ONE...

TOWARDS SUNDOWN MODESTY CIRCLES TO REACH THE HEIGHTS ABOVE THE MONASTERY



AND WE BOTH KNOW IT - BUT WE CAN'T LET SOME LUNATIC GET THE MEANS TO MAKE NUCLEAR BOMBS WITHOUT GIVING THIS OUR BEST SHOT



IN THE VALLEY THREE TO ONE WE'LL BE DEAD BY SUNRISE, VILLE

YOU'RE FORGETTING THE FORM BOOK, COLONEL - WHEN MODESTY'S IN THE RACE, THE ODDS CHANGE



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

DUSK...

TIME TO GO...
AND YOUR
HIGHWAYMAN'S
KNOT HOLDING
THE CHUTE HAD
BETTER WORK,
WILLIE



THE RELEASE CORD IN ONE HAND, BOW AND
ARROWS IN THE OTHER, MODESTY RUNS
HARD FOR THE EDGE
OF THE DROP...



AND
DIVES
INTO
SPACE

ONE-AND-TWO-AND-
THREE-AND PULL!



B459

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

THE MAKESHIFT
RELEASE WORKS,
AND THE
PARACHUTE
OPENS



AHHH...
ONE DAY
I'LL TELL
YOU HOW
SCARED
I WAS,
WILLIE



FIVE SECONDS
TO TOUCHDOWN...
IT'S ODDS AGAINST
ANY GUARDS
LOOKING UP
BUT I'LL BET
WILLIE'S
WATCHING!

'SAFE LANDING' BUT WHY LET HER
MAKE THE DROP,
WILLIE?
I DON'T LET MODESTY
DO ANYTHING,
GUIDO— SHE
CAUSES THE
SHOTS



B459A

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

AS MODESTY LANDS ON
THE MONASTERY ROOF...



WE GO IN
NOW, WILLIE?

NO!
I TOLD
YOU THE
PLOT!



MODESTY WORKS
SOFT-SHOE, TAKING
OUT ANY GUARD SHE
CAN GET TO. UNTIL
SOMEONE GIVES
THE ALARM—
THEN WE GO IN

THAT PROBABLY WON'T BE LONG—
KUNG-LI'S GUARDS DON'T SLEEP,
AND ALL MODESTY'S GOT IS A
CRAZY BOW AND ARROWS, AND
GREG'S GUN WITH TWO BULLETS

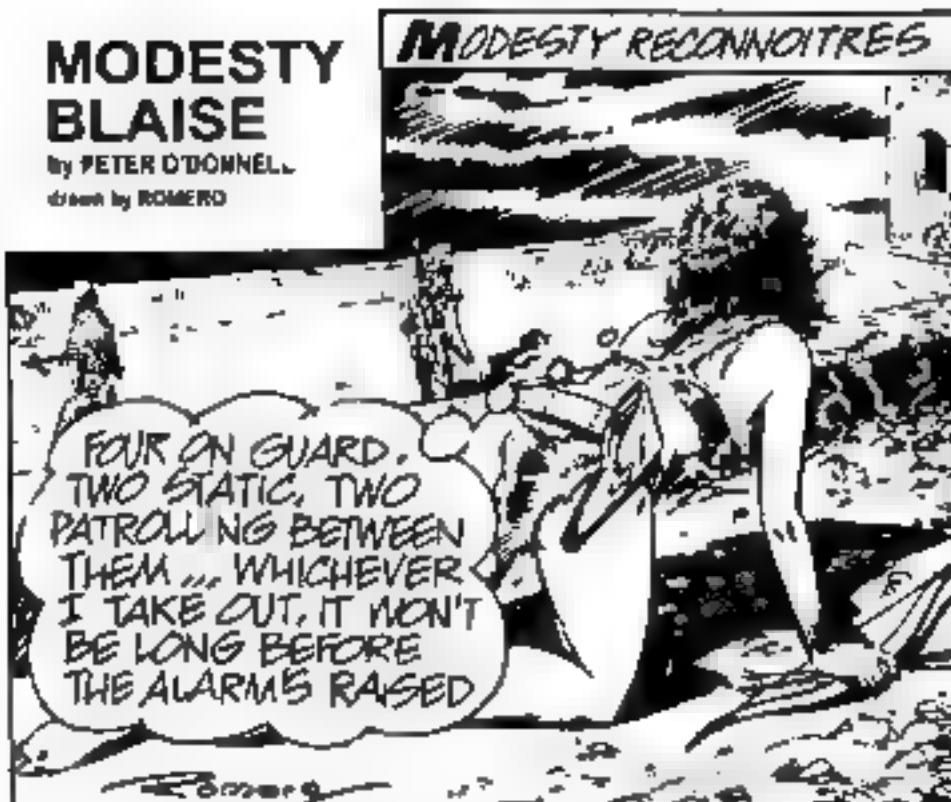


B460

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

MODESTY RECONNOITRES



FOUR ON GUARD,
TWO STATIC, TWO
PATROLLING BETWEEN
THEM... WHICHEVER
I TAKE OUT, IT WON'T
BE LONG BEFORE
THE ALARMS RAISED



TAKE ONE OF THE STATICS FIRST—
THEN I MIGHT GET ONE OF THE
PATROLLING PAIR BEFORE THE
OTHER LETS RIP

NOW IT BEGINS... AND I'M HATING
IT... BE GLAD WHEN IT'S AN
OPEN FIGHT



B461

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



Modesty BLAISE

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



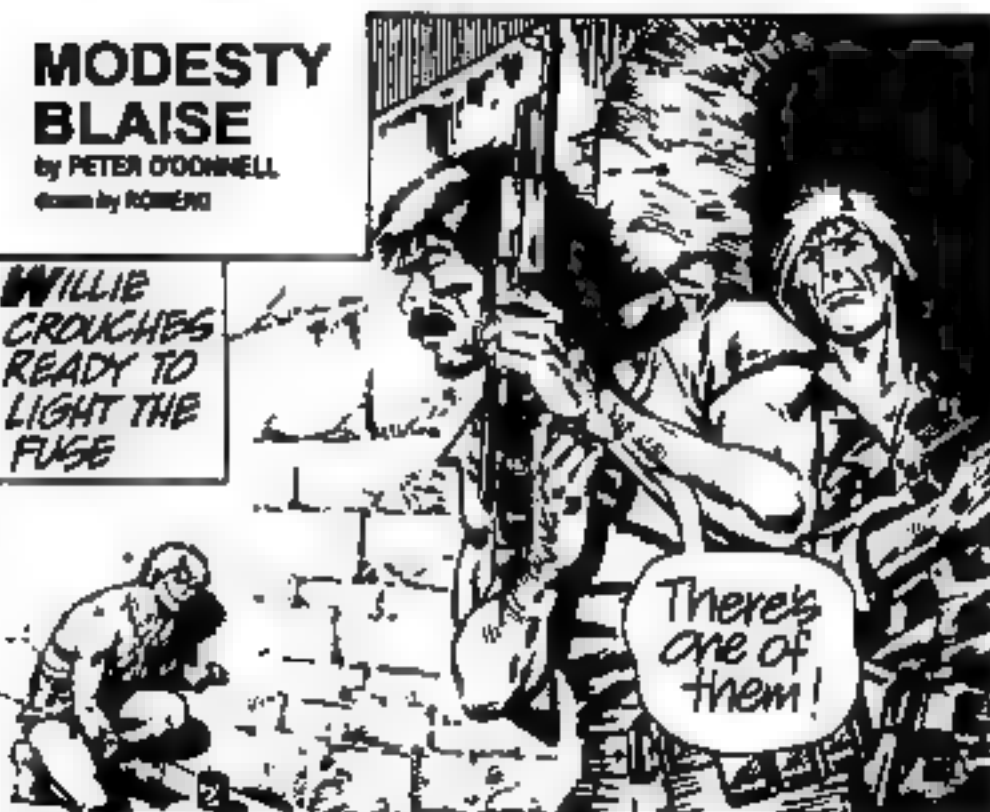
MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



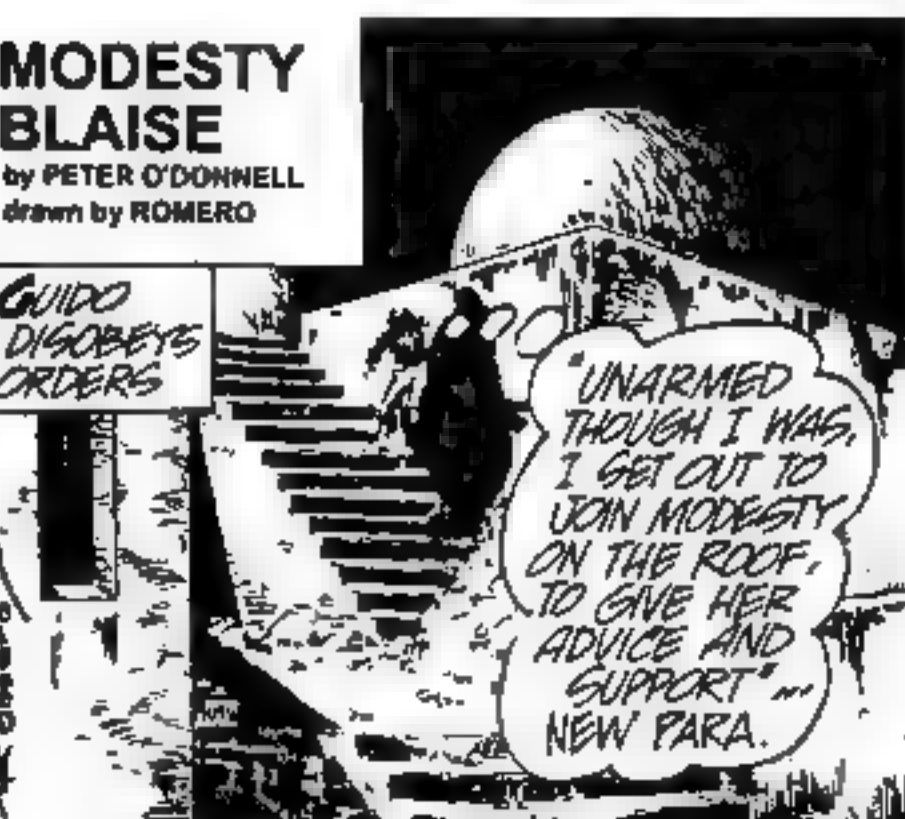
MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

"IN AGONY FROM A BULLET WOUND, I TOLD MODESTY TO CLAMBER UP THE DOME SO THAT—"
"SO THAT WHAT? I MUST ASK HER LATER"



KUNG-LI MOVES WARILY ACROSS THE ROOF TILL HE CAN SEE ROUND THE DOME, WHERE GUIDO NOW LIES SPRAWLED



THINK DEAD, GUIDO... BE CONVINCING!

SHE MUST HAVE CLIMBED DOWN TO THE TERRACE SOMEHOW... AND THAT ONE'S DEAD OR SHE'D NEVER HAVE LEFT HIM, STUPID BITCH!



B474

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

KUNG-LI MOVES TOWARDS GUIDO



OH, GOD— HE IS COMING TO MAKE SURE I AM DEAD!

MODESTY CLINGS TO THE DOME



GOT TO GET TO CLOSE QUARTERS FAST— ONLY CHANCE

ON THE TERRACE BELOW, WILLIE WAITS...



SHE'LL BE AILING TO CON 'IM SOMEHOW— AND I'M NO USE TO 'ER DOWN 'ERE

B474A

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO



MODESTY LEAPS FROM THE DOME, BUT INSTINCT GIVES A SPLIT-SECOND WARNING, AND THE STRIKE IS PARTLY BLOCKED

UHH!

THE GUN FALLS... BOTH MODESTY AND KUNG-LI GO SPRAWLING



GODDAMMIT, I MISSED!

NOW I KILL YOU WITH MY HANDS, BLAISE— BETTER GO!



B475

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

COMBAT AT TOP-DAN LEVEL

HURT HIM, BUT HE RODE IT WELL— HE'S BRILLIANT



AAH!

THE COUNTER-STRIKE IS LIGHTNING-FAST, AND MODESTY ONLY HALF EVADES IT

UHH!

CRACKED A RIB...



FIRST ONE TO LAND A SOLID STRIKE WINS...

THE FIGHT'S ON— MOVE, WILLIE-BOY!

B476

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

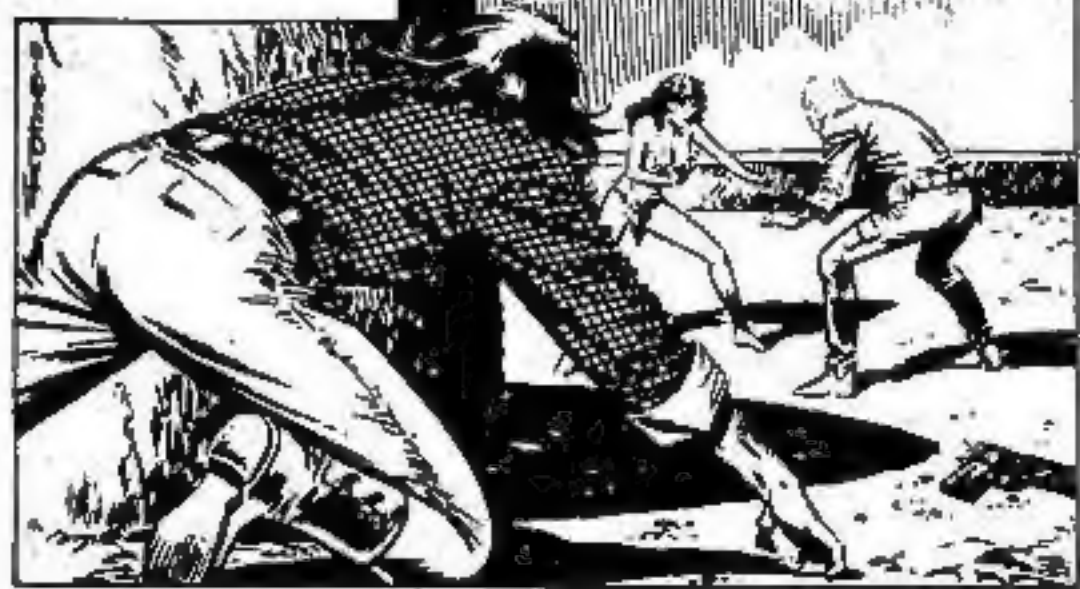
AS MODESTY AND KUNG-LI MANOEUVRE FOR AN OPENING, GUIDO CRAWLS TOWARDS THE FALLEN GUN

AND AS THEY CLOSE AGAIN IN A FLURRY OF STRIKES AND COUNTER-STRIKES...

"WITH COOL PRECISION I SHOT KUNG-LI IN THE SHOULDER, THEREBY SAVING MY COMPANION'S LIFE..." NEW PARA.

WILLIE REACHES THE ROOF

THAT'S GUIDO WITH A GUN! GOD, HE COULDN'T HIT A BARN STANDING INSIDE IT



MODESTY BLAISE

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HE'S GOING TO SHOOT! JUST AS LIKELY TO HIT MODESTY!

GUIDO NO!

OOOOOH!

HIT-FIRST, THE KNIFE STRIKES GUIDO'S HAND, AND THE GUN IS KNOCKED ASIDE AS IT FIRES

THE SHOT DISTRACTS KUNG-LI FOR A MILLI-SECOND — BUT NOT MODESTY, WHO SEIZES THE MOMENT TO STRIKE

UHH!



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I WAS JUST GOING TO DROP 'IM WITH A KNIFE

THANKS, WILLIE... NO NEED NOW

I WAS ABOUT TO SHOOT HIM TILL WILLIE INTERFERED

YOU'RE NOT WYATT EARP! YOU'D HAVE MISSED BY A YARD—OR HIT ME, YOU CLOWN!

AND YOU WERE TOLD TO KEEP OUT OF THIS ANYWAY!

I CAN HEAR AN AIRCRAFT—IT'S THE CHOPPER COMING TO PICK UP THAT URANIUM, PRINCESS



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
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COLONEL GREB AND ANIELA HEAR THE HELICOPTER

DO YOU THINK MODESTY AND WILLIE HAVE BEATEN THOSE BAD MEN AT THE MONASTERY?

WHO KNOWS...

HOLY ST. FRANCIS OF SALES, PATRON SAINT OF JOURNALISTS, PLEASE DON'T LET GUIDO MAKE WHAT WEEBIE CALLS A COOK-UP TONIGHT

WE HEARD SMALL-ARMS FIRE... A GRENADE... NOW NOTHING

ON THE MONASTERY ROOF SHOWING NO LIGHTS... HOW MANY CREW, I WONDER?

8479A

I'D SAY ONLY TWO—IT HAS TO TAKE THE MERCENARIES AND THE URANIUM BACK TO... WHEREVER



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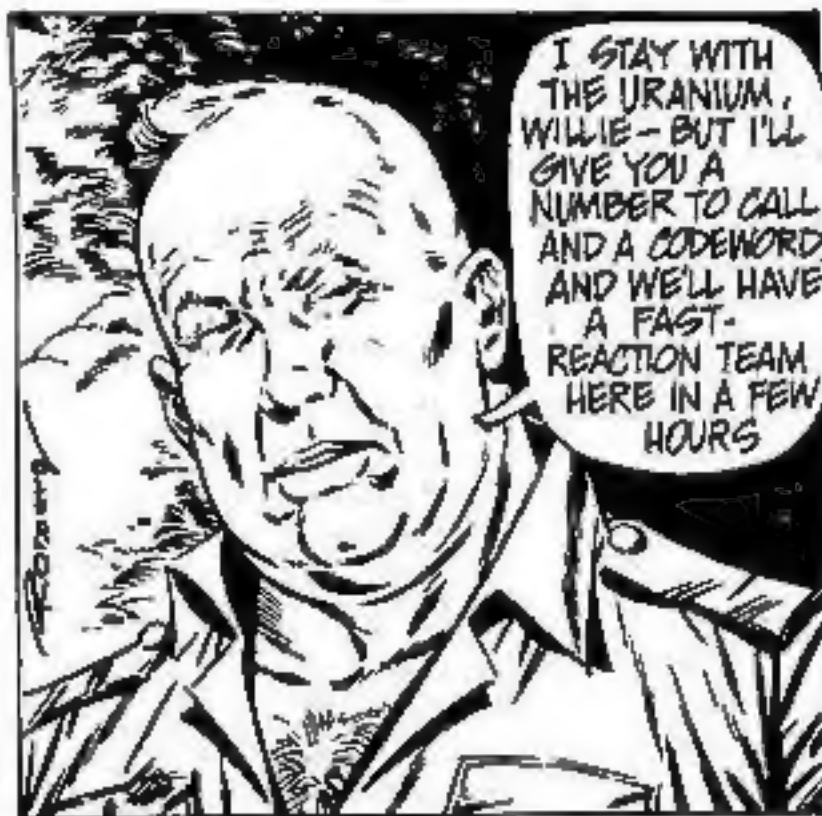
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MID-MORNING... WILLIE HAS COMPLETED HIS TASK AND IS RETURNING FOR MODESTY AND GUIDO

YOU WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO COME BACK WITH ME

I KNOW...

BUT I HAVE NEVER BEEN MADE LOVE TO ON A MOUNTAIN-TOP, AND THIS IS THE ONLY CHANCE I SHALL EVER HAVE...



DO YOU MIND, WEEBIE?

TO BE HONEST, ANIELA, I'M QUITE GLAD THERE'S ONLY ME 'ERE TO OBLIGE

B4B4

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL
drawn by ROMERO

THREE DAYS AFTER THE RETURN TO THE FILM UNIT



TILL NEXT TIME, WEEBIE!

"IGNORING MY WOUND, I WAVED GOODBYE TO THE FRIENDS WHO HAD HELPED ME SAVE THE WORLD."



WE DID THAT STUNT SO GUIDO WOULDN'T GET SACKED AND COULD MARRY ANIELA - BUT IF HE DOES MARRY HER, YOU'D BETTER STOP TAKING HER UP IN HELICOPTERS



AND LANDING ON MOUNTAIN-TOPS!

OH, I WILL, PRINCESS, BUT TILL THEN... TILL THEN...

B4B4A

THE END